FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Soviet Union

13 Aug 87 FBIS-SOV-87-156

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Karpov: 'Zero-Zero Agreement Depends on Washington' AA 1
IZVESTIYA Reports Karpov Replies on FRG Missiles [13 Aug] AA 2
Karpov Views Disarmament Borders in Turkish Daily [Istanbul HURRIYET 10 Aug] AA 3
IZVESTIYA Cites Nazarkin on Chemical Inspections [13 Aug] AA 4
PRAVDA Deplores U.S., FRG Remarks on Pershings [Zhukov, 8 Aug] AA 5
Shishlin Reviews U.S.-USSR Arms Accord Problems AA 7
FRG's Genscher Ignores Pershing Issue in Remarks AA 8

WORLDWIDE ISSUES

Moscow Television Airs Discussion on Asia Policy CC 1

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

UNITED STATES & CANADA

TASS Reports Reagan Address, Iran-Contra Comments A 1
Admits Damage to Presidency A 1
To 'Continue Secret Operations' A 1
TASS Cites U.S. Quarterly on CIA, Afghan Drugs A 2
Reagan Recommends Extending Fishing Agreement [IZVESTIYA 9 Aug] A 3
Minister Aristov Receives U.S. Trade Official A 3

NORTHEAST ASIA

TASS Reports 'Fierce Clashes' on Seoul Streets C 1
ROK Strikes 'Most Severe Conflicts in 25 Years' [Lukyanov] C 1

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

Lao Premier Leaves Soviet Union After 'Rest' D 1
Observer Views Gorbachev-Heng Samrin Meeting D 1

NEAR EAST & SOUTH ASIA

Shabayev Views 'Paradoxical Situation' in Gulf E 1
Iran's Reply to UN Resolution, U.S. Policy Cited E 2

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

CPSU Department Official Urnov Leaves for Angola [PRAVDA 11 Aug] F 1

CPSU Signs Agreement With Sierra Leone Party F 1
[PRAVDA 7 Aug]
Briefs: Supplies to Ethiopia; Protocol Signed With Ghana F 1

EAST EUROPE

Bulgaria's Filipov Sees CPSU Officials on Visit G 1
Romanian Political-Military Mission Visits 3-7 Aug G 1
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 9 Aug]

WEST EUROPE

Gorbachev Sends Message to Edinburgh Festival H 1
Genscher Receives Shevardnadze Letter on Missiles H 1
[DPA]
IZVESTIYA Notes Arrival of Swiss Ambassador [5 Aug] H 1

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Statement Issued on Guatemala Accords, Prospects I 1

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL

USSR Ratifies Geneva Act on Goods Classification R 1
Turkmen Party Chief Niyazov on Restructuring R 1
[PRAVDA 2 Aug]
Azerbaijan Law Officials Purged for Abuses R 5
[IZVESTIYA 5 Aug]
Azerbaijani Writers Debate Shortcomings R 6
[LITERATURNAYA GAZETA 5 Aug]
Soviet Armenians Petition on Territorial Claim R 8
[AFP]
Moldavian Premier Responds to Paper's Criticism R 9
[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 6 Aug]

ECONOMIC

Silayev Interviewed on Management Restructuring S 1
[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 12 Aug]

AGRICULTURAL

Media Report 4-11 August Agricultural Developments T 1
4 August T 1
5-6 August T 2
7-8 August T 2
9-10 August T 3
11 August T 4
Problems in Spreading Family Contract Viewed T 5
[PRAVDA 6 Aug]
Ecological Impact of Farming Practices Debated T 8
[LITERATURNAYA GAZETA 5 Aug]
Statistics Committee Reports Harvest Figures T 13

SCIENTIFIC

Yakutiya Blast To Stimulate Oil, Gas Inflow	U 1
Demichev Awards, Addresses USSR, Syrian Cosmonauts	U 1
News Conference on Soviet-Syrian Space Mission	U 3
Experiments Continue on 'Mir' Orbital Complex	U 4
Untreated Waste Dumped Off Vladivostok	U 4
Khodkin Discusses Cooperation in Meteorology	U 5

MILITARY

Yazov Cites 'Stagnant Phenomena' at Press Meeting	V 1
KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Views Alcoholism in Armed Forces [6 Aug]	V 1
Carpathia Troops To Hold Exercises 17-22 Aug	V 3

KARPOV: 'ZERO-ZERO AGREEMENT DEPENDS ON WASHINGTON'

LD121549 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Moscow August 12 TASS -- "Statements by public and state figures in many countries and world press commentaries give one the right to say that the Soviet stand on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles is meeting broad understanding," Viktor Karpov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry department for arms control and disarmament, told a TASS diplomatic correspondent today.

"The essence of the Soviet stand is as follows: The elimination of Soviet and American medium- and shorter-range missiles should be accompanied by the elimination of American warheads on the West German Pershing-1A missiles.

Such is, in fact, the essence of the 'zero-zero' option," Karpov pointed out.

"If the United States rejects the double-zero deal, it should directly say so. It is no good defending the option while seeking to preserve its nuclear warheads in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The argument that the U.S. has for twenty odd years cooperated with the West German Government in providing nuclear warheads for Pershing-1A missiles is not convincing enough.

If the U.S. wants the agreement, it should secure its implementation from the American side. This means denying West Germany the nuclear warheads," Karpov pointed out.

"As to the West German Government's stand on 'global double zero', we have heard no new arguments worth mentioning since Eduard Shevardnadze's speech in Geneva.

There have emerged signs, however, that not everything has been unequivocally decided within the West German Government, that there are, probably, various viewpoints.

It is worth noting the remarks by Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher to the effect that due to the concentration of nuclear weapons in Europe and on West German territory the Federal Republic could benefit more than other European nations from the viewpoint of security should the U.S. and the USSR reach an agreement on a 'double zero option.'

Let us wait and see whether this means change in the government's overall approach, or is just an expression of the foreign minister's own opinion."

"It has become obvious for all who is impeding the agreement on medium- and shorter-range missiles in Geneva. All realize now that the future of the 'zero-zero' agreement depends on political will, on Washington's decision, a decision that is backed by deeds, rather than words," Karpov said.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS KARPOV REPLIES ON FRG MISSILES

PM121547 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 5

[A. Kuvshinnikov report: "A 'Mere Trifle' Equivalent to 216 Hiroshimas. From Our Correspondent at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center"]

[Text] "The main obstacle to reaching a Soviet-U.S. agreement on 'global double-zero' in medium-range and operational and tactial missiles is presented by the question of the 72 U.S. nuclear warheads for West German Pershing-1A missiles," V. Karpov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Problems of Arms Control and Disarmament Administration, told journalists.

Despite widespread views in the West, these warheads can in no way be considered a mere trifle since they equal 216 of the atom bombs dropped on Hiroshima. We do not have the right to overlook this potential from the viewpoint of the security of both the Soviet Union and our allies.

Furthermore, V. Karpov emphasized, the United States would like to reserve the right to produce Pershing 1-B missiles and supply them to replace the aging Pershing-1A's. This means a possible return of Pershing-2's to Europe. The conversion of one missile into another takes no more than 48 hours. As a result of this, any accord on eliminating medium-range missiles would become a work of fiction.

Replying to questions from correspondents of THE NEW YORK TIMES and THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, he stressed: Regarding the missiles themselves, West Germany can retain them until their "obsolescence." But if we are talking about a "zero option" on operational and tactical missiles, the U.S. warheads for them must be destroyed. Otherwise this will no longer be a "zero option." If the United States is turning down the "zero option" on operational and tactical missiles, then let the U.S. Government say so directly.

One also gets the impression that the United States and the FRG are literally clinging like grim death to the ill-starred 72 warheads. One cannot help thinking: Does their dogged stubborness not reflect the existence of a secret long-term plan to gradually transform the FRG into a nuclear power, a plan that is suddenly jeopardized because of the "unplanned" progress at the Soviet-U.S. talks?

It is possible that such plans exist, V. Karpov replied to your correspondent's question. In any case, we are realistically facing a case where, as a result of U.S. and FRG maneuvering, a situation is developing within the NATO framework that could encourage the thought that there are some sort of secret ideas of turning West Germany into a nuclear or near-nuclear power.

It is quite obvious that Bonn needs to abandon its nuclear-power pretensions. For its part, it is time the United States ended its attempts to obtain military advantage for itself through its trickery over the Pershings and their warheads.

A KUNA correspondent asked: If the United States insists on retaining 72 warheads, could the Soviet Union make a new compromise so as to avoid wrecking the agreement?

"We have already proposed everything we could," V. Karpov replied laconically. "It is not up to the United States."

The question of the 72 warheads is undoubtedly an awkward and disadvantageous one for NATO diplomacy. The U.S. and West German press are trying to switch attention to a more advantageous topic: By deploying SS-24 ICBM's and SLBM's the Soviet Union, they claim, has exceeded the limitations established by the SALT II Treaty.

The Soviet Union, V. Karpov stressed in response to questions from U.S. and Soviet journalists, is modernizing its strategic offensive weapons in complete accordance with the provisions of the 1979 SALT II Treaty. We are replacing obsolete, stationary, silo-based launchers with mobile ICBM's. The SS-24 is the new missile type permitted under the SALT II Treaty. Its deployment is being carried out within the limits permitted by the treaty. The Soviet Union is allowed 820 ICBM launchers equipped with multiple reentry vehicles (MIRV'S). The number of existing missiles in this category does not exceed this level. The Soviet Union is allowed a total of 1,200 ICBM and SLBM launchers equipped with MIRV's. We currently have less than that level. The replacement of stationary ICBM's with mobile ICBM's is aimed at improving the survivability of Soviet counterstrike forces -- their destruction by a first strike is made more difficult or altogether impossible -- and therefore promotes a strengthening of stability.

It is apposite to recall that back in President Reagan's 27 May 1986 statement the United States refused to observe the SALT II Treaty restrictions and in November of that year exceeded the limits established for them.

KARPOV VIEWS DISARMAMENT BORDERS IN TURKISH DAILY

NC130747 Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish 10 Aug 87 p 15

[Unattributed report: "Karpov: The Key Man"]

[Excerpts] Moscow (HURRIYET) -- While the Soviet Union is trying to avoid adopting a definite stand on the question of including the Turkish-Soviet border region within the zone in which conventional arms will be reduced, a matter about which Turkey is very sensitive, Viktor Karpov, the chief soviet arms negotiator, has told HURRIYET: "The boundaries of the zone in which conventional arms will be reduced will be determined by the talks in Vienna." [passage omitted]

HURRIYET's correspondent in Moscow, Ertugrul Ozkok, has asked Karpov: "Various initiatives regarding arms control have mentioned a zone stretching from the Atlantic to the Ural Mountains. Can you define this region?"

Karpov said "It is common knowledge that proposals forwarded by the socialist countries in Budapest regarding arms reduction in Europe have defined Europe's geographic boundaries as stretching from the Atlantic to the Ural Mountains. In terms of the Soviet Union, it becomes obvious that all Soviet territory in Europe will be included in this zone. We are maintaining this approach at the Vienna talks and in unoffical consultations between the Warsaw Pact and the 23 NATO countries. The geographic boundaries of the zone will be delineated during efforts to determine the task related to the talks."

Karpov's remarks indicate that the Soviet Union is trying to avoid a categorical stand on the boundaries within which conventional arms will be reduced.

IZVESTIYA CITES NAZARKIN ON CHEMICAL INSPECTIONS

PM121609 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Kuznetsov dispatch: "At Disarmament Conference: To Speed Up Conclusion of Convention"]

[Text] Geneva -- The speech by USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze came at a moment when the international situation demands new initiatives and new forms of thinking, Argentine delegation head Mario Campora declared, addressing a plenary session of the Conference on Disarmament.

He emphasized the importance of a comprehensive and thorough study of the new Soviet proposals aimed at accelerating the elaboration of specific decisions. Support for the Soviet initiatives was also expressed by the delegations of Peru, Sweden, and other countries.

The plenary session was addressed by Ambassador Yu.K. Nazarkin, head of the USSR delegation. He detailed the new Soviet proposals on banning chemical weapons. It can be said without exaggeration, he declared, that the principle of mandatory inspection on demand without the right to refuse such inspections is now a key problem at the talks.

Progress along a whole series of other avenues will depend on its swiftest solution. We believe the procedure for effecting inspections on demand must reliably guarantee the impossibility of a state concealing the fact and consequences of violations of the convention. Clearly, no more than 48 hours should elapse between the time of the demand and the arrival of an inspection group on site.

In proposing measures to prevent any abuse of such demands and the use of inspections for purposes incompatible with the tasks of verifying pledges under the convention and world also prevent the disclosure of secrets unrelated to chemical weapons, Yu.K. Nazarkin said, we believe such measures ought to be elaborated within the framework of the principle of mandatory inspections rather than contrary to this principle, and they ought not to weaken this principle or create any exceptions to it.

There is no need to repeat how important confidence-building measures are to accelerating the talks. Proceeding from the need to strengthen an atmosphere of trust and guided by the interests of the swiftest conclusion of a convention, the Soviet side has issued an invitation to visit a Soviet military installation near Shikhany to see standard models of chemical munitions in our country and techniques for destroying chemical weapons in the form of a mobile complex. We intend this to take place 7-8 October 1987.

In the future, as construction work is completed on a specialized enterprise for destroying chemical weapons now being built near Chapayevsk in our country, we will invite experts to visit it too. Some time ago the U.S. side invited us to visit an enterprise for the destruction of chemical weapons in Tooele, Utah. We have already informed the U.S. delegation that we accept this invitation, seeing it as a step toward the strengthening of mutual trust.

Only a short time remains, the head of the Soviet delegation said, until the end of the conference's summer session. In our view, the swiftest conclusion of work on a convention to ban chemical wapons demands the most intensive utilization of all the opportunities available to us. In this context, I would like to draw attention to the question raised by the USSR foreign minister 6 August on holding an additional session of the conference this year to basically conclude the elaboration of a convention. Such a session could be held from mid-November (following the conclusion of the examinatin of disarmament questions in the UN General Assembly's First Committee) through the end of December.

PRAVDA DEPLORES U.S., FRG REMARKS ON PERSHINGS

PM081849 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Aug 87 Second Edition p 4

["Political Observer's Notes" by Yuriy Zhukov: "Vicious Circle?"]

[Text] As was to be expected, USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze's speech at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva immediately prompted widespread reaction. Many people everywhere are encouraged by the consistency and vigor with which the Soviet Union is pursuing the course of eliminating nuclear and chemical weapons and also of reducing so-called "conventional" arms. But my primary concern is how Bonn and Washington have reacted. After all, the questions raised by our minister were directly addressed to them. So how have they reacted?

On the one hand, a White House spokesman immediately declared that the Soviet foreign minister's speech "inspires us with some optimism." "We believe," he said, "we have reason to hope an agreement will be reached."

On the other hand, he immediately found it necessary to declare that the United States still refuses to eliminate the 72 warheads stationed in the FRG and intended for the Pershing 1-A missiles in the possession of the Bundeswehr.

The speech by M. Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks, on U.S. television sounded equally contradictory. He began by stating that the United States is "very glad" that the "Russians" have taken "a very important step forward," but then he said:

"I quite understand West Germany's position. However, we are not negotiating on its behalf. We can speak only for ourselves..."

"But we control the warheads for these missiles!" a journalist objected.

"If we deprived them of these warheads," M. Kampelman said imperturbably, "we would be violating an agreement with our allies..."

Really! You might think the White House had forgotten that under the terms of the nonproliferation treaty the FRG renounced these weapons and the United States pledged not to transfer them to anyone! The Soviet side in Geneva clearly and precisely stated that our people will never accept transforming the FRG into a nuclear power. Unless the FRG explains the prevailing situation and removes the anxiety that many European states now feel at the ambiguity of its position on the Pershing-1A missiles, the USSR will find the situation that has now arisen unacceptable and will express itself directly and unambiguously on that score.

Bonn understood this warning but has apparently failed to draw appropriate conclusions for itself. FRG Government spokesman Schaefer hastened to declare that "the FRG is not a nuclear power and does not want to be one." Excellent! What did he go on to say? What he went on to say was this:

"As for the U.S. warheads on the German Pershing-1A missiles," Schaefer continued, "they are controlled exclusively by the United States." Thus, he expressed on behalf of his government the hope that "the USSR and the United States will arrive at a speedy settlement of the questions that still remain open."

The result seems to be a vicious circle: Washington says the warheads for the Pershing-1A missiles, although they are American, belong to a "third party," in other words, the FRG, and therefore the United States cannot negotiate about them, while Bonn claims that these warheads "are controlled exclusively by the United States" and that all that Bonn can do is hope that "the USSR and the United States arrive at a speedy settlement."

After all this Bonn's spokesman ventured to address hypocritical appeals to the Soviet Union "not to create any artificial obstacles to further talks"!

When you read all these hasty speeches full of infantile ruses, you marvel at how irresponsibly these responsible people are jeopardizing the real possibility of an agreement that would be of truly historic importance and is awaited hopefully by peoples, including the Americans and West Germans!

Expressing the opinion of broad circles of the West German public, SPD Presidium Member Egon Bahr said: "The Pershing-1A missiles equipped with American nuclear warheads that are in service with the Bundeswehr must not become an obstacle to reaching an agreement on eliminating medium-range nuclear missiles and operational and tactical missiles in Europe. The contradictory statements of FRG Government spokesmen regarding the Pershing-1A missiles have created a danger that Bonn's position is becoming a factor impeding efforts in disarmament by the USSR and the United States, and the threat of international isolation hangs over the FRG. In view of the technical specification of the Pershing-1A missiles, they should be included among the missiles to be eliminated in the event that an agreement on the 'double-zero option' is signed."

Broad circles of the public not only in the FRG but also throughout the world realize how serious this issue is. And you can only throw up your hands when you hear a figure like M. Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks, venturing to state that "from the Soviet viewpoint (?) these missiles are of no material [sushchestvennyy] military significance" and that he "does not think they can prevent the reaching of agreement."

In Geneva, the Soviet side clearly and precisely asked Washington and Bonn:

Does the FRG have any nuclear means in service?

Who actually controls the nuclear warheads for the Pershing-1A missiles?

A very great deal depends on the answer to those two questions -- both the fate of an agreement on medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles, and the future of the nonproliferation treaty.

SHISHLIN REVIEWS U.S.-USSR ARMS ACCORD PROBLEMS

LD092236 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 9 Aug 87

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Nikolay Shishlin]

[Text] Hello, comrades. Evidently we all have to get used to the fact that political life now no longer knows either pause or respite. Its pulse used to die down over the summer: vacation time would come around, and politics would also take a break. But summer this year isn't like that. What we have been witnessing during the last weeks and days is both dramatic and significant.

Evidently, the top issue is the fate of the Soviet-U.S. negotiations in Geneva, and it seems to me that everyone already knows the agenda of these negotiations by heart. First, there's the issue of eliminating Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles, now on a global level. Then there is the issue of deep reductions in strategic offensive arms, and finally, there's the problem of tightening the ABM Treaty, or, to put it another way, the problem of not allowing space to be militarized. How do things stand? Regarding medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles, as a result of the bold Soviet initiatives, broad initiatives, there are opportunities, quite realistic opportunities, for reaching an accord there and for achieving a breakthrough that would lead not to a limitation of definite classes of arms but to the elimination of two classes of modern nuclear arms. It is true there are still obstacles and hindrances on the path to an accord, but I'll talk about them a little later.

Regarding strategic offensive arms, there are two drafts on the negotiations table: the Soviet and the U.S. ones. The Soviet draft envisages a 50-percent reduction in this class of arms over 5 years. The U.S. draft also envisages a 50-percent reduction in this class of arms but over the course of 7 years. So why has this difference arisen, although 5 years was talked about in Reykjavik? Generally speaking, one can ask the question: Is 5 or 7 years really such a great difference? To answer this question one has to touch on the third point of the agenda: the Soviet Union proposes the sides voluntarily pledge not to withdraw from the ABM Treaty for 10 years. The United States proposes that this pledge be limited to a period of 7 years, once again. Why? For the simple reason that in 7 years the United States is counting on accelerating their "Star Wars" plans and on breaking away here, along this channel, to the unattainable, i.e., securing military superiority for themselves. And here one must say quite definitely that if the ABM Treaty is not tightened, then there won't be anything. Neither will there be any reduction in strategic offensive arms, since this is not some sort of tactical linkage but a linkage of a fundamental nature, a linkage of a strategic order.

Regarding the obstacles to elaborating an accord on medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles, as you know, the whole thing is tied up at the moment around the 72 Pershing-1A missiles in the West German Bundeswehr's armory and the 72 U.S. nuclear warheads for these missiles. The United States says that, on the whole, it does not discuss the armaments of third countries. But we did not intend to discuss the armaments of third countries at these negotiations. What is being discussed is the 72 U.S. nuclear warheads, i.e., what is being discussed is zero for the Soviet Union and zero for the United States. Then the United States says that 72 warheads are small-fry compared to the 7,000 warheads that should be eliminated.

But if it is small-fry, then why don't they give it up? Presently, there are some variations on resolutions to this problem knocking about in the world press, but these variations aren't serious, and official Washington and official Bonn are silent. Moreover, they're staking out their position.

Regarding the Soviet approach, it has been stated quite definitely in Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze's recent statement at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. The Soviet Union firmly maintains its stance that an accord on medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles is a very essential prologue to elaborating an accord on deep reductions in strategic offensive arms and tightening up the ABM Treaty, i.e., not allowing the militarization of space. That is indeed the way things stand on this sore issue in all world politics.

FRG'S GENSCHER IGNORES PERSHING ISSUE IN REMARKS

LD121353 Moscow TASS in English 1327 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Bonn August 12 TASS -- Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher of the Federal Republic of Germany said here Tuesday that his country's interests demanded the conclusion of a Soviet-U.S. agreement on a "double-zero option" and "we shall do everything for it to be signed".

But he passed over in silence the issue of American nuclear warheads for West German Pershing-1A missiles, which are the main sticking point preventing a comprehensive agreement to scrap medium-range and shorter-range missiles.

Despite worldwide public demands, Bonn, supported by Washington, keeps insisting on the Bundeswehr retaining these missiles.

Genscher called for broader cooperation with the Soviet Union, first of all in economic, scientific and technological fields. "We want to open a new page in the history of West German-Soviet relations. This page should be filled in with an unwavering hand. Broadest cooperation meets the interests of both countries," he said.

MOSCOW TELEVISION AIRS DISCUSSION ON ASIA POLICY

LD082210 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1415 GMT 8 Aug 87

["For Peace and Security in Asia" program chaired by Political Observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov with USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev; Mikhail Kapitsa, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences' Oriental Studies Institute; and Yuriy Lebedev, deputy head of a directorate of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces]

[Text] [Seyful-Mulyukov] Good afternoon, esteemed viewers. We are beginning an international television program, entitled: "For Peace and Security in Asia." What is taking place in this region and on the adjoining expanses of ocean is of national and state interest for our country. The Soviet Union is an Asian power as well as European one. Thus, peace in Asia and peace in Europe are equally important to our policies. Nearly two-thirds of mankind lives in the Asian and Pacific region: What will it be like as it enters the new millenium? The global situation will also depend upon this to a large extent. Our approaches to constructing a secure, nuclear-free, and peaceful future for this enormous region and to settling conflicts have been deeply elaborated in documents that are well known to you: Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's Vladivostok speech, his speeches in India, the famous Delhi declaration, and in the Soviet leader's recent interview with the Indonesian newspaper, MERDEKA.

To discuss different aspects of this problem, we have invited to the studio some eminent Soviet specialists. I would now like to introduce them to you: USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Alekseyevich Rogachev; Deputy Mikhail Stepanovich Kapitsa, director of the Oriental Studies Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences and chairman of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countires; and Major General Yuriy Viktorovich Lebedev, first deputy head of a directorate of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union.

Igor Alekseyevich, let my ask you to begin our conversation by describing the Soviet Union's concept of strengthening peace and security in the Asian and Pacific region. What are the main directions and special feasures of this?

[Rogachev] This is a completely new approach to a whole range of problems in Asia and in the Pacific. Our platform stems from the following aims: First, we are striving to unite the efforts of individual countries in the region to strengthen peace and security. We are calling for movement toward this objective in all directions, including bilateral accords, subregional accords and in the final analysis, if this becomes realistic with the passage of time, through the conclusion of a regional agreement on questions of security. Further, we want to strengthen military and political stability in the region through reducing nuclear weapons in the Asian and Pacific Ocean region, taking this as far as the ultimate abolition of these; through lowering the level of military confrontation between the Soviet Union and the United States and the total quantity of armaments in the region. Then we want to make all possible efforts toward settling regional conflicts in Asia. Clearly, we are going to talk in greater detail about this today. Finally, we want to establish mutually-advantageous bilateral and multilateral cooperation between all countries of this region in economy, culture, science, and technology.

In the foreign press they often write that the Soviet Union is now turning its face toward Asia, and there is a large amount of truth in this. In this important region, as in other regions, we seek what the different Asian countries have in common regardless of their size. We propose that an integrated system of security for the Asian and Pacific Ocean region be worked out. We do not have in mind any hard and fast, once and for all, definite framework: we repeat insistently the idea that in setting up the structure of regional security, priority is given to the creative approach, to the open expression and discussion of any ideas and proposals from all interested countries, organizations, and even individuals. Understanding is growing of the fact that the Soviet concept of a political solution of the region's problems, rather than one based on a military approach and force, is constant with the mood dominant in Asia and the Pacific Ocean basin. It is a fact that the West has no constructive platform for Asia and nothing to set up to compare to Soviet ideas.

Introducing this thinking into political circles, ruling circles, and the public of the countries in the region is a new phenomenon, a phenomenon of significance for the whole of Asia, one which has a great force of attraction and a great potential for exerting influence. The line based on strength being pursued by the United States and other Western powers loses in objective terms both politically and on the propaganda level.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] Of course, and this is because the United States and its ideologists and politicians view all processes and manifestations taking place in this region within the framework of Soviet-U.S. confrontation, that is to say, purely within the narrow military aspect. Well, we can say that our concept of security in the Asian and Pacific region is distinguished by the fact that it considers first and foremost the real situation. It is clear that our concept of security did not develop in a vacuum: it is, so to speak, a synthesis of many ideas and proposals that originated in Asia itself and in the countries of the Pacific Ocean basin. Let us recall that the Nonaligned Movement formed here.

[Kapitsa] That's right. Since World War II most military conflicts have taken place in Asia and the Pacific region. There are four wars taking place in Asia currently -- the war in the Middle East, the Iran-Iraq war, the war around Afghanistan, and the one around Kampuchea. Arms are being amassed in Asia. Searches are being made for new blocs. For example, a tripartite alliance consisting of the United States, Japan, and South Korea is being worked out. In this regard it is natural that the leading minds of Asia should seek ways out of this situation. The five principles of peaceful coexistence were worked out in 1954. The authors of these were India and China. In 1955, the well-known conference took place in Bandung, at which 10 principles were worked out for peaceful coexistence, cooperation, and the struggle against colonialism and against violence. The Nonaligned Movement made its appearance and was formed in Asia. This has now become a powerful political world force. Many states expressed their own thoughts. For example, the MPR has proposed that a pact should be concluded covering nonaggression and the nonuse of force between the countries of Asia and the Pacific. The countries of Indochina have proposed that a zone of peace and friendly cooperation be set up in Southeast Asia. The DPRK has proposed that the peninsula should be turned into a nuclear-free peace zone. Very many proposals aimed at strengthening peace and at peaceful cooperation in Asia and the Pacific have been proposed by India.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] We have touched upon the political aspect of the security problem in the Asian and Pacific region. But perhaps the military aspect is of particular importance, because the problem of getting rid of nuclear weapons is no less acute for this region than it is for Europe: the threat of a growing nuclear potential in different parts of it is increasing there too. The Soviet Union's proposals, therefore, for a global missile zero option have given rise to a large response in the countries of Asia and the Pacific too.

[Lebedev] The greatest threat to peace and the stability of the situation in that region is, in my opinon, the United States. Here they have their second strongest group of armed forces after Europe, and, in terms of numbers, it even exceeds the group in Europe. Here the U.S. Armed Forces group numbers 500,000 with more than 1,000 combat aircraft and more than 150 combat vessels, including a large amount of nuclear-capable hardware.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] The Pentagon considers the Pacific region a strategic zone second in importance only to Europe...

[Lebedev] Absolutely right.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] And (?calls it) almost its second front against the socialist countries in that area.

[Lebedev] That is absolutely correct, and the whole thrust of the U.S. military-political activity in that region is of an anti-Soviet nature. That is the basis on which they try to rally a number of countries in the region. And in this regard our proposals forwarded by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in his interview in MERDEKA about our readiness to eliminate our medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles in the Asian part of the country, on the condition that the U.S. missiles on U.S. territory would be eliminated...

[Seyful-Mulyukov, interrupting] Meaning Alaska?

[Lebedev] Including Alaska, yes.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] The place where they want to install, so the speak, the Pershing-2 missiles like those in a number of West European countries.

[Lebedev] Yes, such U.S intentions could be seen, and if the proposal forwarded by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbacev is implemented, the United States would have to destroy all the medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles on its national territory. I would say that this proposal could bring about an abrupt turning point, not only in solving the question of eliminating the two classes of missiles -- medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles -- but also in the overall course of the Geneva talks on reducing nuclear and space weapons. I would like to stress that even in the West they are saying that our proposal and our readiness to reduce, to completely eliminate medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles -- our readiness to effect a global double-zero on those missiles -- reduce by 80 percent all the difficulties obstructing the path to agreement. In other words, I would like to stress that this is a very important step, and the myth of the Soviet military threat, which is often exploited in the West, is completely dispelled. It is, in fact, a demonstration of the defensive nature of our military doctrine. What is more, such a proposal ties the hands of the aggressive circles in the West.

What I would say is most important is that we have sensed the concern the countries of the Asian and Pacific region have shown for their security interests. Sometimes people ask whether this decision of ours might damage the defense interests of the Soviet Union.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] That's a very important question.

[Lebedev] What I would say is that in making that decision, the assessment of the effect on the Soviet Union's security was thoroughly weighed by the chiefs of the Defense Ministry also, and the decision we made does not reduce the defense potential of our country nor does it harm it. Moreover, preventing this class of U.S. missiles -- with a range capable of reaching the territory of the Soviet Union -- from being stationed in Alaska even introduces some sort of positive element with regard to our security.

[Rogachev] I would like to add to what Yuriy Viktorovich said, that in making the decision and expressing readiness to eliminate the 100 warheads on the medium-range missiles in the Asian part of the Soviet Union, we naturally took account of the concern expressed by certain Asian countries, such as China and Japan. In coming out with this decision, which was not simple, we of course considered the interests of Asian public opinion.

The initiatives that our friends -- the socialist countries in Asia -- formulate blend very nicely with the global initiatives forwarded by the Soviet Union, complementing and developing them. This goes for all the proposals forwarded by the fraternal socialist countries in the past few years. It goes for the convention on nonaggression and abstention from force that was forwarded at the 19th MPRP Congress. Very useful proposals -- and this is now being recognized not only in the socialist world but also in the West and even in the United States -- have recently been forwarded by the DPRK leadership. Their proposal for a stated reduction of troop numbers in the North and the South to 100,000 by the year 1991 and their readiness to reduce unilaterally the number of their armed forces by 100,000 men by the end of the year speak for themselves. Unfortunately those initiatives by our Korean comrades are not meeting with a commensurate response from the Seoul regime. As far as the activity of our friends in Indochina is concerned -- by which I mean Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia -- a great many things have recently been proposed by them to find ways of a political settlement to the conflict in Indochina. We hope these proposals will be correspondingly studied and examined. There are a lot of positive things in them, and they contain elements of similarity with the proposals aimed at a political settlement forwarded by such countries as Indonesia and Malaysia.

This was shown by Prime Minister Mohamed Mahathir's visit to the Soviet Union. It was shown by the talks with Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila in Moscow in May. It was shown by the visit by Comrade Shevardnadze, foreign minister and member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, to the countries of the Asian-Pacific region, and in particular his talks in Thailand, Indonesia, and Australia.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] We have been speaking here of a whole series of peace initiatives and steps by the socialist countries, but our Western opponents speak of some sort of threat to the Asian-Pacific region that is supposedly represented by our alleged naval base on the Cam Ranh peninsula in Vietnam. Yuriy Viktorovich, could you please explain to our viewers the essence of this question?

[Lebedev] I would say that this is a very clumsy attempt to conceal, to try to conceal behind these words about our Cam Ranh base, the existence of a very large number of really major U.S. naval bases located in this region. Actually the Cam Ranh port is used by our ships as an intermediate point to refuel, carry out repairs, and replenish their food stocks during trips.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] A temporary material and technical supply point.

[Lebedev] Yes, it is a temporary material and technical supply point. There are no stockpiles of military equipment, not to mention weapons, at that port.

[Rogachev] Yuriy Viktorovich, it is probably useful to remind our viewers of how many bases the United States has in the region.

[Lebedev] Well, I could say this about the bases: the United States has in the region about 350 bases and military facilities of which 83 are major military bases.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] In considering how to improve the whole situation in the Pacific basin, one must not forget the effect that could be exerted on this by such a great Pacific power as the United States.

[Rogachev] I think, Farid Mustafyevich, that your are raising a question of considerable importance. In his interview with MERDEKA, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev singled out the role of the United States in the whole region and the significance of this power. We are concerned with the so-called U.S. aspect of the problem of Asian security. The United States, just like the Soviet Union and a number of other major states, is an integral part of the region, and it is connected with this region by a very large number of threads. Of course, together with the Soviet Union and certain other key countries of Asia and the Pacific, it bears particular responsibility of everything that occurs here. We in the Soviet Union do not abdicate our share of responsibility. If, however, we speak of the public opinion of the countries of the Asian and Pacific region, there exists a widespread view that the military and political aspects of the situation in the region are to a large extent predetermined by the nature of the interaction between the Soviet Union and the United States. We are waiting for the U.S. Administration to show a constructive approach to the affairs of the Asian-Pacific region. We are prepared to hold a dialogue with the Americans on the most important issues of disarmament in the Asian-Pacific region.

[Lebedev] In this regard, I would like to add a little to what Igor Alekseyevich has said, in the sense that one of the most important points in the interaction is curbing the arms race, although it is, perhaps, not as developed in this region as in Europe. And yet over the last 2 years, 1986 and 1987, the United States has manifestly not shown restraint. In this period, two Ohio-class submarines with Trident-1 ballistic missiles have been introduced into the U.S. Navy and the number of cruise missile launchers on the ships and submarines of the Pacific Fleet has been approximately doubled. Moreover, a squadron of F-16 fighter-bombers has been sited at the Misawa Air Base in Japan. It is primarily essential that the United States follow the same road as the Soviet Union in showing restraint in the arms and armed forces buildup here.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] Mikhail Stepanovich, Asia is called the continent of arguments and conflicts. We understand very well that each of these conflicts has its own roots, its own history, and its own means of reaching a settlement.

One thing is obvious: regional conflicts, wherever they occur in this region, poison the whole international atmosphere and complicate the situation of the countries of Asia and the Pacific basin. And so the settlement of explosive situations is one of the most important elements in securing peace and security in the whole region.

[Kapitsa] We base our views on the fact that, without settling current conflicts there, it will be impossible to make any progress toward the aim of securing peace and security in Asia. The most acute conflict in this region is currently the Afghan one. The Soviet Union regards the Afghan people with profound sympathy; they are defending the gains of the April revolution and repulsing the attacks of the forces of imperialism and of regional reaction. The Afghan land, worn out by bloodshed, wants peace and tranquility. This is what the policy of national reconciliation is aimed at. The Soviet Union fully endorses the position of the Nonaligned Movement in favor of Afghanistan remaining an independent and nonaligned state.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] I would like to add something to what Mikhail Stepanovich said. In Afghanistan we have adopted a course directed at stopping the bloodshed and at solving the problem around Afghanistan by peaceful political means. It is a matter for the Afghans themselves to decide what sort of government they will have, what the composition of that government will be, what its program will be, and what the country itself, the republic itself, will be called after approval of the constitution. What have the U.S. and its partners countered this with? A course directed at expanding the war; a course directed at continuing the regional conflict, which makes the situation in the region difficult; and an attempt, so to speak, to create a permanent sore spot on the southern borders of the Soviet Union. They send Stingers, Blowpipes, and other modern weapons that primarily affect the civilian population, which is borne out by cases of passenger aircraft being shot down. Of course, we too could counter the Stingers and Blowpipes with more effective countermeasures. But we don't embark on this because we are against broadening the confrontation. We are for peaceful paths of settlement, and we are for the Afghans meeting and resolving all questions connected with national reconciliation. This is what Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said, accurately, that in general the question of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan is...

[Rogachev, interrupts] Resolved, resolved.

[Seyful-Mulyukov]...And we are prepared to do this quickly. But it is important to achieve an end to this interference and a guarantee that this armed interference in Afghanistan's affairs will not be resumed.

[Rogachev] That was said literally a few days ago.

[Kapitsa] (?Another) conflict is taking place in Southeast Asia. In 1979, the people of Cambodia, with the support of Vietnamese volunteers, got rid of the Pol Pot clique. In 4 years, this clique killed 3 million people, 2 million according to other estimates. But is 2 million not enough? That is one in every three or four of the country's citizens. In discussing the Cambodian situation, international specialists forwarded a whole series of ideas. One of the ideas is that in present conditions there remains nothing else for the Cambodians and the Vietnamese beyond putting up armed resistance and destroying those who invade the country and carry out murders. At the same time various variations of a political settlement are being examined. Vietnam, for example, has already reduced the number of its volunteers in Cambodia several times. The Vietnamese Government has stated that by 1990 the Vietnamese Volunteer Army will be totally withdrawn from Cambodia. The People's Republic of Kampuchea is ready to hold negotiations with representatives from the opposition forces, all of them, excluding Pol Pot's clique.

[Rogachev] We've held talks with the leaders of a whole series of countries in Asia and the Pacific Ocean; we are not avoiding a discussion of the Cambodian problem; we are open for dialogue with any country on this problem. Incidentally, we are conducting a discussion on the Cambodian settlement with our Chinese colleagues as well, at Soviet-Chinese political consultations. This was the case this April in Moscow, and, evidently, it will be continued at the next round to be held in Beijing.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] I would not start confining an examination of the danger and the process of settlement of regional conflicts just to Afghanistan and Cambodia. In this region there are quite a few other very acute, and I would say, even more potentially explosive conflicts, which at present occupy the minds not only of politicians but also of the broad circles of the world public. Currently, the public's greatest attention is drawn to the events in the Persian Gulf. Indeed, the U.S. has concentrated around the Persian Gulf a large, so to speak, fighting group of vessels, up to fifteen. Presently, the U.S. Battleship Missouri is sailing full steam ahead to this region. U.S. journalists report that its artillery leaves craters the size of a baseball field. One can imagine that if the U.S., in reply to an explosion of another mine -- let's suppose, under a tanker -- or to some action from Iranian Islamic Revolution Guards, hit Iran's coastline missile installations or another target with all their shipborne artillery and air force, what a situation could arise in this region and how this could affect the situation as a whole. In fact, I want to ask you, Yuriy Viktorovich: You know that we've forwarded a series of proposals on limiting the scale of naval activity in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. In light of the latest events in the Persian Gulf area, these proposals acquire a particular topicality. How would you, so to speak, assess the situation?

[Lebedev] Yes, absolutely. In the Persian Gulf, it is indeed the strong-arm politics of the United States that have been displayed very clearly. For the time being, it cannot give up in any way. The Soviet Union has always deemed it necessary to resolve such conflicts at the negotiating table, that if a military confrontation arises here, if weapons are used by the United States, then, first of all, this will of course inflict heavy casualties on the countries in this region. Apart from this, it is also fraught with more serious consequences not only for this area. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's proposals on reducing naval activity and reducing exercises in the Asian and Pacific area would undoubtedly promote strengthening the security of the countries in this area, naval activity in particular. I would like to draw attention to the fact that a fleet has some peculiarities: the fact that it can move quickly, and now, given that the United States has nuclear-equipped aircraft carriers -- incidentally, the Soviet Union has no aircraft carriers -- but aircraft carriers are weapons of an offensive nature, they are weapons that can move quickly and strike surface targets and naval bases. Strictly speaking, this is planned in the U.S. Navy strategy. So, limiting naval activity and reducing the intensity of exercises, including that of naval forces, in this area would of course promote the security of the states in this region.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] In the Soviet concept of security in the Asia and Pacific region, an important role is assigned to developing bilateral relations between the USSR and countries in that region. With many of them, as we know, large ones and small ones, our country maintains multilateral and, at times, friendly relations. I think it has become axiomatic that relations between two large countries like the Soviet Union and India exemplify interstate relations in Asia.

[Kapitsa] This is indeed the case. Two great powers, hand in hand, are conducting a struggle for disarmament, primarily to eliminate nuclear arsenals and strengthen peace. Cooperation in the economy and science and technology has reached a high level. A broad cultural exchange spiritually enriches both peoples. A new era in the history of relations between the USSR and India was opened by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's visit to India last November. The Delhi Declaration on the Principles of a Nuclear Free and Nonviolent World, signed by the Soviet and Indian leaders on 27 November 1986, is an embodiment of new political thinking and points the way for humanity's survival in the nuclear era and the establishment of broad international cooperation, without nuclear weapons and without violence.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] Soviet-Chinese relations are of inestimable significance for peace processes in this region. I would ask you, Igor Alekseyevich, to throw light on this issue, which indisputably interests all Soviet television viewers.

[Rogachev] Our country pursues a consistent policy for achieving total normalization of relations with the PRC. We proceed from the fact that good-neighborly cooperation between the two countries would meet the fundamental interests of the peoples of these two countries and would contribute to strengthening peace in Asia and peace throughout the world. It is well-known that in recent times, in recent years, we have had sound progress in the trade and economic sphere, in scientific and technical cooperation, in cultural and sports exchanges. In the last 5 years the value of our trade turnover, for example, has increased almost 11 times. Both countries are showing a great deal of interest in those internal processes developing in the neighbor's country. We are following with great interest and sympathetic eye those processes, the processes of reform, taking place in China, or the modernization, as the Chinese comrades call it themselves. In turn, we feel the interest experienced in China, literally at all levels, so to speak -- both at the upper level and among the ordinary Chinese -- over the processes of restructuring developing in the Soviet Union.

Recently a delegation from the Legislative Proposals Commission of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet headed by CPSU Central Committee Secretary Georgiy Petrovich Razumovskiy visited the PRC. Some very interesting debates and discussions took place during the visit to Beijing and other cities in China, and everywhere we felt interest on the part of the Chinese comrades in how the restructuring is developing. Of course, we share with China quite a few features that testify to the similarity of the two major socialist states' stances on key problems today. Both China and the Soviet Union are resolute opponents of nuclear war and reject a policy of preparing for such a war. We welcome the statements in Beijing about the necessity to end the arms race and about the inadmissibility of militarizing space. The Soviet Union and China, as is known, have pledged not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and for the time being they are the only two nuclear powers to have taken this pledge. We hope the latest Soviet initiative announced by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in his interview to MERDEKA will put an end to the various speculations about the fact that the Soviet medium-range and operational and tactical missiles in the Asiatic part of the Soviet Union are directed against China.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] Well, regarding this, could one say that the very fact of adopting the decision to eliminate the medium-range missiles and the operational and tactical missiles in the Asiatic part of the Soviet Union has been, to some extent, the result of the process of normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations and the removal of those, so to speak, features that you've just been talking about? [sentence as heard]

[Rogachev] I think you're right when you talk about this aspect, and in turn, we hope that the process of eliminating these... [changes thought] the action as such on eliminating the 100 warheads will promote the further deepening of mutual understanding and strengthening of trust between the Soviet Union and China.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] And how are relations at the political level? Another round of consultations is beginning in Beijing.

[Rogachev] Well, before we begin the round of consultations we will hold another round of negotiations in border issues. We think the border negotiations will promote further expansion of relations between the Soviet Union and China, and in October, in Beijing, there will be another round of political consultations. There we will discuss problems of any exclusively political nature, and we are confident that both these and other talks will contribute to the gradual expansion of relations and the improvement of mutual understanding. Of couse, we also have disagreements with China, we cannot shut our eyes to this. We have quite different approaches to, let's say, problems such as Afghanistan and Cambodia, which have already been discussed today...

[Seyful-Mulyukov, interrupting] A settlement of these problems.

[Rogachev] Yes, a settlement of the problems around Afghanistan and Cambodia. But I think those active and energetic steps being undertaken both by the Afghan leadership and the Cambodian leadership, the policy of national reconciliation, of national agreement, will remove the acuteness of the tension surrounding these problems.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] I think a very important element in the security of the Asian-Pacific region is Soviet-Japanese relations. To a considerable extent, the situation in the Far East will depend on their normal progress. I will ask you, Mikhail Stepanovich, to touch upon the question of Soviet-Japanese relations, at the present stage.

[Kapitsa] Soviet-Japanese relations were restored in 1956, and since then their development has been varied, there have been rises and falls. At the end of 1985 and in the beginning of 1986 the Japanese Government began gradually taking Soviet-Japanese relations out of the refrigerator and a warm breeze began to blow. As a result, the negotiating mechanisms started, and political consultations were resumed. The Soviet foreign minister visited Japan during which time a number of important agreements were signed. Soon afterward, the Japanese foreign minister visited the Soviet Union. There was discussion about a visit to Japan by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. But progress in this constructive direction soon came to a standstill. Japan sharply increased her spending on militarization.

On Japanese territory, as close as possible to Soviet borders, joint Japanese-U.S. maneuvers were conducted that were of an openly provocative nature. The Japanese Government introduced restrictions on trade with the Soviet Union. Incomprehensible campaigns directed against the Soviet Union flared up more and more frequently in Japan. A cold wind came up, and it was Tokyo's fault. This is a great pity. We in the Soviet Union consider the main thing to be political will and realism, a mutual aspiration to seek and find mutually acceptable outcomes to the ties of contradiction and disagreement. We would not like to lose optimism, and we are counting on Japanese common sense and on their aspiration to peace and business-like cooperation. We as before, are open for all-round cooperation with Japan.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] Let's go over, let's throw a bridge, from politics to economics. An important lever for creating a peaceful and secure situation in the region is economic links.

[Rogachev] That's right. It has particular significance for us because the Soviet Far East and eastern Siberia border this region, and we have a great interest in accelerating the development of our regions bordering the Pacific Ocean. Over the last year we have witnessed gradual development of mutually advantageous economic contacts between the Asian-Pacific countries. But right from the beginning we have advocated all interested countries, without exception, participating in this process. We welcome the activity of the Conference on Pacific Economic Cooperation; within the framework of this conference, all questions on the economy are discussed. We are prepared to participate in this conference.

[Seyful-Mulyukov] To sum up, I would like to say that over the past year we have proceeded even further in developing our concept of securing peace and security in Asia and the Pacific Ocean basin. There is a certain positive content, an accumulated potential, in the struggle for the set aims. Many questions remain open and there are very many difficult problems. For example, confrontation is escalating in certain regions. Nevertheless, the reference points that have been mapped out in our Pacific program have become a real, practical instrument for achieving really clear aims to create a peaceful, secure situation in this enormous region, where, as we have already said, two-thirds of mankind lives. In conclusion, I would like to thank all those who took part in our program and the viewers for their attention to the theme we have presented for discussion. Thank you and goodbye.

TASS REPORTS REAGAN ADDRESS, IRAN-CONTRA COMMENTS

Admits Damage to Presidency

LD130553 Moscow TASS in English 0548 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Washington August 13 TASS -- U.S. President Reagan has come up with an address to the nation that dealt mostly with the investigation into the Iran-contras deal that consisted in illegal arms sales to Iran and the diversion of part of the profits to Nicaraguan contras gangs. Reagan actually admitted that he was accountable for the deal, although he said he had not been briefed on all its details by John Poindexter, his former national security adviser. Reagan admitted that he had been wrong when he had approved arms deliveries to Iran but denied any knowledge of the diversion of the arms sales profits to Nicaraguan contras. By his statement Reagan summed up the results of Irangate hearings that had come to a close in U.S. Congress. He admitted that the Iran-contras affair had inflicted serious damage on his administration.

In his address he touched upon the main tasks facing the U.S. Administration in the 17 months left for his stay in office. Among his main goals for this period he mentioned the signing of an agreement with the USSR on the elimination of intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles, the settlement of the situation in Central America and a reform of the federal budget.

To 'Continue Secret Operations'

LD130930 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0628 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Washington, 13 Aug -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

President R. Reagan made a televised "address to the nation" on Wednesday devoted to the aims of the administration's foreign and domestic policy for the remaining 1 and 1/2 years of its term of office. These aims, it followed from the speech, could be attainable on the condition that the 'Irangate' scandal is "consigned to the archives." The White House chief acknowledged that, in the course of the affair, there had been "lies, leaks of information, disagreements, and errors," and that no small amount of damage had been inflicted upon the administration. "I know that you all continue to have doubts about what took place during this episode," Reagan admitted.

"The point is that I can't say anything which would put the situation right," the President continued. Nevertheless, virtually the whole section of the address devoted to 'Irangate' and its lessons was precisely an attempt to "put the situation right" and to justify the illegal machinations. Contradicting the numerous facts that have been revealed during recent months, Reagan asserted that he knew absolutely nothing about the transfer of some of the funds gained from the sale of weapons to Iran to the Nicaraguan contras. The White House chief didn't fail to confirm the U.S. determination to continue supporting the contras.

Without uttering a word about the gross violations of the elementary norms of international law and legislation by the United States itself, which had been revealed in the course of the investigation into the affair, Reagan nonetheless gave an assurance that he had drawn the necessary lessons from the scandal.

As proof he referred to such measures of a generally cosmetic nature as the appointment of new leaders for sections of the White House apparatus and the National Security Council and the confirmation of "new and stricter procedures for consulting and informing Congress" about future secret operations. "We shall continue secret operations as before," the President said, adding that each one "must be legal" and conform to a specific political goal."

Reagan talked about the administration's tasks in domestic and foreign policy. He singled out the talks with the Soviet Union on limiting and reducing armaments. "In the coming months," the President said, "I hope to reach an all-embracing and verifiable agreement with the Soviet Union on reducing nuclear weapons. We are striving for genuine progress on the way to the global elimination of a whole class of nuclear armaments -- U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles." "This would be a historic agreement." "In our relations with the Soviet Union," the President said, "we shall strive for peace and stability." He attempted to ascribe this progress to the U.S. Administration, but he passed over in silence the question of the 72 Pershing-1A missiles that are under FRG jurisdiction, armed with U.S. nuclear warheads, and are now the main obstacle to concluding an agreement on medium-range missiles.

Commenting on Reagan's address on behalf of the Democratic Party, Senator George Mitchell stressed that it is too early to speak of "consigning to the archives" the "Irangate" scandal, since its perpetrators have still not been punished. "Before we can involve ourselves effectively with future matters," he said, "we have to answer for past deeds." At the same time, the senator gave the assurance that members of Congress from the Democratic Party are ready to assist in any way possible to obtain an agreement between the United States and the USSR on arms control. The attainment of such an agreement, he stressed, must be the main aim for the remaining period of the administration's term.

TASS CITES U.S. QUARTERLY ON CIA, AFGHAN DRUGS

LD121644 Moscow TASS in English 1623 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Washington August 12 TASS -- The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency assists narcotics production at bases of Afghan anti-government bandits in Pakistan, Iran and some parts of Afghanistan, the U.S.-based quarterly bulletin COVERT ACTION reported.

It said the drugs then were smuggled to Western Europe and the United States, with the proceeds going to fund a covert war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The undeclared war was thus financed not only with U.S. dollars handouts, the article said.

It followed from it that the bandits' bases, where mostly opium poppy was grown, accounted for three-quarters of all heroin smuggled into Western Europe and half of the hard drugs smuggled into the United States.

In 1983 alone 4.5 tons of heroin were sent to tne U.S. from the area. In late 1986 one Abdol 'Wali was arrested attempting to smuggle nearly a ton of hashish into the United States through Newark, New Jersey. According to an admission by spokesmen for federal authorities, he held an important post among the Afghan anti-government bandits.

It had become known that the C.I.A. has funded its covert war in Laos and Cambodia at the expense of profits from opium and heroin production, the bulletin said. Now the U.S. espionage agency was pursuing the same policy against Afghanistan, it added.

REAGAN RECOMMENDS EXTENDING FISHING AGREEMENT

PM130832 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Extension Recommended"]

[Text] Washington, 8 Aug -- In a letter to the U.S. Congress, President Reagan has recommended an extension of the U.S. agreement on the creation of a 200-mile fishing zone off U.S. shores by another year. The White House announced this on Friday.

This agreement was signed in November 1976 and repeatedly has been extended for periods ranging from 1 year to 18 months.

The extension of the agreement ensures the continuation of mutually advantageous cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union in fishing off the shores of the United States, according to the President's letter. If the agreement is not extended, cooperation will cease, which will create financial difficulties for U.S. fishermen.

MINISTER ARISTOV RECEIVES U.S. TRADE OFFICIAL

LD101355 Moscow TASS in English 1228 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 10 TASS -- Forms of trade and economic relations between the Soviet Union and the USA are discussed during a visit to Moscow by James Giffen, president of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Trade and Economic Council. He was received by Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Aristov and held talks with the heads of a number of Soviet branch ministries, which received the right to engage in foreign trade operations on their own.

During the talks, the sides noted that trade volume between the USSR and the USA and the exsisting trends in mutual trade do not correspond to the potential possibilities of the two countries. Concrete proposals were considered to achieve a qualitatively new level of business cooperation. Special attention was paid to the issues connected with the creation of joint ventures.

TASS REPORTS 'FIERCE CLASHES' ON SEOUL STREETS

LD121520 Moscow TASS in English 1453 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Tokyo August 12 TASS -- Fierce clashes between demonstrators and police took place in downtown Seoul today after more than 1,500 people took to the streets to demand an immediate release of political prisoners.

According to demonstrators, despite the partial release of political prisoners, there still are at least 200 opponents of the Chon Tu-hwan regime in jail in South Korea.

The police attempted to prevent the marchers from reaching the central part of the city, by setting up special cordons on the main thoroughfares leading there. When the demonstration came close, tear gas canisters were fired at it.

ROK STRIKES 'MOST SEVERE CONFLICTS IN 25 YEARS'

OW130510 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1900 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Yevgeniy Lukyanov commentary from the "90 Minutes" program]

[Text] Ninety new strikes have flared up in the past 24 hours at enterprises of leading South Korean industrial and transport companies. Here is what Yevgeniy Lukyanov has to say:

[Lukyanov] Hello comrades. South Korea, where political instability has been a fact of life for several months, is once more in the news. This time we are seeing unprecedented mass strikes that have followed the antigovernment demonstrations that led, as you know, to limited political consessions by the Chon Tu-hwan regime to opposition forces.

The country has been gripped by the most severe conflicts in 25 years. Workers of more than 190 plants and factories are on strike in South Korea. According to press reports, they number more than 60,000 workers of the automobile, ship building, and mining industries. Besides economic demands, the strikers are making political demands aimed at repealing present antilabor laws in accordance with which the trade unions are made dependent on the employers and authorities.

In response, the Seoul regime has announced its intention to adopt strict measures against strike movement participants, accusing them of illegal activities. The authorities will continue to actively interfere in labor conflicts as well and put down the strike struggle with force. Detachments of paramilitary police have already been drawn up to industrial enterprises involved in the strike to this end.

According to Kim Yong-sam, chairman of the opposition Reunification Democratic Party, the government is approaching the strikers from a policeman's viewpoint. Arrests, he stressed, will simply lead to further labor conflicts, and this may have a serious effect on the already unstable political situation in the country.

LAO PREMIER LEAVES SOVIET UNION AFTER 'REST'

LD121305 Moscow TASS in English 0530 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 12 TASS -- Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, who was on rest in the Soviet Union, today left for the homeland.

OBSERVER VIEWS GORBACHEV-HENG SAMRIN MEETING

BK100858 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1330 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] On 28 July, Soviet leader Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev held talks with Cambodian leader Heng Samrin in Moscow. The two sides discussed cooperation between our two countries and international issues. Our observer writes:

Like previous summits, great attention was paid to the events around Cambodia. The two sides expressed their unanimous views on this issue and happily affirmed that favorable conditions have emerged for resolving the Cambodian problem. This is primarily the result of the plan that envisages a national reconciliation process.

The initiative was due to Cambodia, which expresses its readiness to hold talks with individuals or groups of exiled Cambodians to ensure agreement and cooperation in the interest of peace and progress in the country. It is clear that the genocidal clique should be eliminated from this process. We would like to recall that Pol Pot and his henchmen have massacred over 3 million Cambodians and put the country in a state of confusion and destruction. In August 1979, their crimes were sentenced by the people's court in Phnom Penh. With weapons supplied by their backers across the Atlantic, the Pol Pot clique continues to harass Cambodian villages along the border sowing violence and terrorism.

It is this outside threat that pushes Cambodia to ask for assistance from Vietnamese Army volunteers. As has been made known, all of these volunteers will be withdrawn from Cambodia by 1990 when this danger is completely eliminated. The Cambodian issue can only be resolved politically meaning at a negotiating table through dialogue as the Indochinese countries proposed long ago.

Vietnamese-Indonesian relations at foreign ministerial level in search of a solution have shown a number of positive changes in this regard. Talking about ASEAN contribution to this process, Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, in his reply to the paper MERDEKA, said we know the position of Indonesia and some other countries and we welcome it.

As the Soviet-Cambodian summit in Moscow has affirmed, a solution to the Cambodian problem would contribute to improving the situation in Southeast Asia and in the Asia-Pacific region. This would benefit all the countries in the region. The two leaders hoped that the problem caused by outside forces would in the end be eliminated from the political agenda of the region.

SHABAYEV VIEWS 'PARADOXICAL SITUATION' IN GULF

LD121606 Moscow TASS in English 1547 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 12 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Boris Shabayev writes:

Washington maintains that the U.S. naval task force, the largest one ever since the war in Vietnam, has been brought to the Persian Gulf for the sake of protecting the "freedom of shipping".

Is is really so that the U.S. Administration takes care of the safety of tanker's navigation? Such a question arises if one tries to penetrate beyond the smokescreen of U.S. propaganda and to turn to facts.

The first fact has been testified to by John Lichtblau, president of the Petroleum Industry Research Foundation, who has said that over the seven years of the Iran-Iraq war there have been no interruptions in the supply of oil from the Persian Gulf.

Owing to the U.S. naval presence there, the picture is changing, and a paradoxical situation arises.

Mr Lichtblau is of the opinion that the plan which, according to the government, is to secure the supply of oil, may put it in jeopardy.

Or, to be more exact, it has already put it in jeopardy, for more than fifty tankers of various countries have gathered at the entrance to the Strait of Hormuz for fear of proceeding on their way in view of a real threat of hostilities in the region which is oversaturated with warships and planes.

The second fact is that the United States consumes only seven percent of Middle Eastern oil whereas Western Europe uses 23 per cent, and Japan 60 per cent of the entire amount.

The Washington correspondent of ABC asks why then the USA shows such zeal in the area. Is it not because it has accumulated in its oil storage facilities not less than half a billion barrels of oil which it expects to sell at a profit?

U.S. Secretary of Energy John Herrington corroborates the hypothesis by maintaining that the U.S. policy is to market the oil immediately after there is an interruption in the oil supply.

The third fact is that the price of barrel of oil in the West has already went up from 18 to 22 dollars.

Linking these facts together, it is not difficult to answer the question as to who is to benefit from that, and who will have to pay for it in the final analysis.

IRAN'S REPLY TO UN RESOLUTION, U.S. POLICY CITED

LD122210 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Arabic 1530 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Iran handed the UN secretary general the government's reply to the Security Council's resolution on the Iran-Iraq conflict.

Resolution No 598 includes the international community's call to Tehran and Baghdad to cease fire immediately and to withdraw their forces to the recognized international borders.

Seyed Rajaie-Khorassani, Iranian representative to the UN, stated that the issue of the cease-fire between the two sides has not been specifically handled by the reply, but Iran does not reject the Resolution.

This news does not lead to the assumption of a radical change in the Islamic Republic's position toward the Iran-Iraq war itself or its military-political course in the Arabian Gulf in general. However, if we take into consideration the fact that the first reaction of Iranian official quarters to the UN Security Council's resolution was a firm rejection and hard-line negative reply, then there is tangible progress in the Iranian position. For this reason, international public opinion and Soviet citizens declare with renewed force their hopes that new steps will be taken by the Iranian side toward a transformation in the political means for solving the conflict with Iraq, especially as the Iraqi leadership supports the peaceful initiative of the UN Security Council for ending the war, provided that Tehran takes a similar step.

However, even these faint lights of hope aggravate Washington. Washington's actions show a complete disinterest in stopping the Iraq-Iran bloodshed and establishing stability in the region. The giant battleship Missouri, armed with Tomahawk missiles, has just entered the Gulf region. [passage omitted]

A few days ago, a U.S. fighter aircraft from the aircraft-carrier Constellation fired rockets at an Iranian aircraft. The two rockets did not hit their target, and there were no further developments in the events. But who knows what might happen next time? The pilot behaved strictly according to the instructions of President Reagan, who ordered the crew of the military aircraft and warships in the Arabian Gulf to fire immediately if they suspected a threat, and to check later. Isn't this proof that the United States is escalating tension there instead of working toward easing it?

Washington's policy is in essence playing with fire for the sake of fulfilling imperialist ambitions of hegemony. This policy appears during any regional conflict. As the proverb says: The tail of the dog will always remain crooked whatever you might do to straighten it.

CPSU DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL URNOV LEAVES FOR ANGOLA

PM111211 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Aug 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Departure from Moscow"]

[Text] A.Yu. Urnov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, left for Angola on 9 August at the invitation of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Party of Labor Central Committee.

CPSU SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH SIERRA LEONE PARTY

PM121433 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Aug 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Plan for Party Ties"]

[Text] Freetown, 6 Aug -- A plan for party ties between the CPSU and the Sierra Leone All People's Congress (APC) in 1988-1989 was signed here yesterday. It envisages an exchange of delegations for familiarization with party organizational and ideological work and the training of party cadres for the APC.

At the signing ceremony Edward Kamara, minister of state for party affairs and APC national secretary for administrative issues, expressed profound satisfaction at the development of ties between the two parties and stated the desire to strengthen the friendly relations and cooperation between them in the common struggle against imperialism, colonialism, and racism and for universal peace and social progress. On the APC's behalf he wished the CPSU and the Soviet people successes in carrying out restructuring.

BRIEFS

SUPPLIES TO ETHIOPIA -- Addis Ababa, 1 Aug (TASS) -- A gift from the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with the Countries of Asia and Africa, the Soviet Peace Fund, the Union of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies of the USSR, and the Soviet Women's Committee to the people of Ethiopia, stricken by the aftermath of drought, was ceremoniously handed over today at Addis Ababa airport. The first batch of the 37 tonne load consists of medical supplies, food, tents, and blankets. [Excerpt] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1005 GMT 1 Aug 87 LD]

PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH GHANA -- On 6 Aug a protocol on the expansion cooperation between the Moscow City Council and the City Council of the capital of Ghana, Accra, has been signed in Moscow. A regular exchange of delegations is being planned. [Text] [Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 6 Aug 87 LD]

BULGARIA'S FILIPOV SEES CPSU OFFICIALS ON VISIT

LD121250 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Comrade Filipov, Politburo member and secretary of the BCP Central Committee, and a group of party workers were in Moscow 10-12 August on a working visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. The Bulgarian comrades met with Comrade Slyunkov, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and with Comrade Talyzin, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee.

Conversations took place at the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, the USSR Ministry of Finance, and the USSR State Committee on Prices. During the meetings there was a detailed exchange of information on work being carried out in the USSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria on fundamental restructuring of economic management as well as on questions concerning Soviet-Bulgarian economic and scientific-technical cooperation.

ROMANIAN POLITICAL-MILITARY MISSION VISITS 3-7 AUG

PM111201 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Aug 87 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Visit By Romanian Political Workers"]

[Text] A delegation of Romanian political workers headed by Rear Admiral D. Petre, deputy secretary of the Romanian Army Higher Political Council, was in the Soviet Union from 3 through 7 August at the invitation of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

The delegation was received by Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. There was a conversation with Colonel General V.S. Nechayev, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

At the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate and Odessa Military District Political Directorate the visitors were familiarized with the activities of Soviet Armed Forces' political organs in carrying out the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and party Central Committee January and June (1987) plenums and with the progress being made in restructuring and in preparations for the 70th anniversary of Great October. The conversations took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

The delegation visited the guards' Kantemir tank division, the Moscow Higher General Forces Command Academy named for the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, and an Odessa Military District formation.

The visitors were shown memorials to revolutionary, combat, and labor glory and the sights in Moscow and Odessa.

GORBACHEV SENDS MESSAGE TO EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

LD091736 Moscow TASS in English 1719 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev has sent a message of greetings to the participants in the Edinburgh International Art Festival which says:

"May I extend my sincere greetings to the organizers, participants and spectators of the Edinburgh International Art Festival which at this time in August traditionally takes place in ancient and hospitable land of Scotland.

"In our nuclear-space age, overflown with dangers, the consolidation of the potentials of world culture, the raising of spiritual values is aquiring a new indispensable importance for the survival and progress of mankind. International fora of culture, where contacts are carried out through the language of art, whilst especially expressive and intelligible to everyone, contribute to that. Among them the Edinburgh International Festival is one of the most authoritative ones.

"May I express hope that participation of the representatives of the Soviet multinational art in Edinburgh Festival will contribute to the development of the cultural ties between the Soviet Union and Great Britain which now are so necessary for mutual understanding and cooperation among peoples.

"I wish the festival every success."

GENSCHER RECEIVES SHEVARDNADZE LETTER ON MISSILES

LD121334 Hamburg DPA in German 1300 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Bonn, (DPA) -- Genscher today received a letter from his Soviet counterpart, Eduard Shevardnadze. The Foreign Ministry spokesman gave no indication of the content.

However, it was rumored in Bonn that in the letter Shevardnadze reasserted Moscow's demand that the Bundeswehr's Pershing missiles would have to be included in a Geneva agreement on the removal of medium-range missiles. Apart from this, the Soviet foreign minister once more strongly supported the unanimous demand of the UN Security Council for the ending of the Gulf war. The Federal Republic is this month chairman of the Security Council.

IZVESTIYA NOTES ARRIVAL OF SWISS AMBASSADOR

PM051335 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS "Official Announcement"]

[Text] On 3 August Swiss Ambassador to the USSR Francis Pianka [name as published] arrived in Moscow.

STATEMENT ISSUED ON GUATEMALA ACCORDS, PROSPECTS

LD120728 Moscow TASS in English 0721 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 12 TASS -- We transmit the full text of the statement by the Soviet Government.

The heads of five Central American states -- Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and El Salvador signed, upon the results of their meeting in the Guatemalan capital on August 6-7, a document on ways to settle the conflict in Central America and establish lasting peace there, and agreed on the procedure and concrete terms for implementing the accords reached.

All peace-minded states, the United Nations organisation, the Nonaligned Movement, many international forums and various political parties and public movements, authoritative representatives of the church and prominent cultural personalities have been declaring for a long time and persistently for a political breakout from this dangerous flashpoint of confrontation.

The accords worked out confirm the viability and effectiveness of the Contadora process aimed at attaining a fair political settlement in Central America by the forces of Latin American states themselves on the basis of strict respect for sovereignty and non-interference, the right of each of t' m to decide ways of their own development.

The document signed by the five presidents in Guatemala makes it possible to get down in practice to defusing the conflict situation and creating stable peaceful conditions for solving acute socio-economic problems of each country and the entire region.

Certainly, much will depend on the stand to be taken by the United States, on whether it will be ready to respect the will of the sovereign states, or will, as before, keep implementing the interventionist policy, flouting international law and throwing down a challenge to the entire Latin America, to the whole world.

The new time that has come in the world development calls for discarding great power stereotypes, for broad and responsible approach everywhere, including towards Central America.

The Soviet Union, the principled supporter of the political methods of settling regional conflicts, welcomes the outcomes of the conference in Guatemala. Expressing support for the accords reached and evaluating at its true worth the contribution by the Contadora and support groups, the Soviet Government states its determination to respect the decision passed by the five presidents.

Within the framework of its responsibility for preserving peace and shaping civilized relations in the world community, it will contribute to the efforts to translate this decision into life.

USSR RATIFIES GENEVA ACT ON GOODS CLASSIFICATION

LD121242 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1130 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow 12 Aug (TASS) -- In a decree of 10 August 1987, the Supreme Soviet Presidium ratified the Geneva Act of the Nice agreement concerning the international classification of goods and services for the purposes of the registration of marks, which was signed on behalf of the USSR Government on 13 May 1977.

TURKMEN PARTY CHIEF NIYAZOV ON RESTRUCTURING

PM061545 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Aug 87 Second Edition p 2

[Interview with S.A. Niyazov, first secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee, by special correspondent N. Demidov in Ashkhabad: "To Live and Work Conscientiously. S. Niyazov, First Secretary of Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee, Comments on PRAVDA's mail" -- no date of interview given; first paragraph is PRAVDA introduction]

[Text] The flow of letters to PRAVDA's editorial office from the Turkmen SSR has increased recently. Many of them touch upon problems concerning party leadership in the economy and the social sphere. Readers wonder why many collectives are only now getting down to restructuring and the process of renewal which has been launched in the republic is progressing so slowly. We asked S. Niyazov, first secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee, to comment on the most typical situations described in the mail.

[Demidov] Saparmurad Atayevich, when studying the republic's current affairs it is difficult not to notice that the burden of past mistakes still hinders confident progress along the path of restructuring. After all, until quite recently the qualities of specialists and leaders were judged according to dubious criteria -- kinship, home-town favoritism, and, finally, servility and sycophancy. It would be naive to imagine that this phenomenon has been totally eradicated within a brief period, despite the resolute measures that have been taken. Evidence of this can also be seen in readers' letters. Letters about breaches of cadre policy leading to abuses are still arriving in the editorial office even today.

Here, specificially, is what A. Esbiyev reports from Chardzhou Oblast: "Several workers from the Kuybyshev Kolkhoz were recently sentenced for overreporting and embezzlement. They were harshly punished. But in many cases the culprits were following orders from the former leadership of the Dostlukskiy Raykom. And yet those who pushed others into false reporting essentially suffered nothing more than loss of office."

[Niyazov] Indeed, the number of letters received by the republican Communist Party Central Committee too has increased considerably of late. There is a growth in people's activeness, their faith in justice, and their implacability toward shortcomings.

You were correct in remarking that the implementation of restructuring in the Turkmen SSR is largely linked with overcoming past mistakes and eradicating negative phenomena which took ugly forms in some spheres. Even now we are acutely feeling the effect of the violations of internal party democracy, unhealthy attitude toward criticism, and slackening of party, state, and labor discipline which occurred in the past. It is well known that there were also instances of lawlessness, protectionism, and patronage. [paragraph continues]

The former republican leaders crudely flouted party principles of work with cadres. These phenomena have been assesed and resolute measures are being taken to improve the situation.

During the period since the 23d Turkmen Communist Party Congress, which embarked on the course of renewal, 9 leaders of republican ministries and departments and about 180 senior officials have been dismissed from office.

Criminal proceedings have been instigated against those who have committed crimes, and some have been sentenced. And, in the context of the letter from Chardzhou Oblast which you cited, I can say that it is, of course, very important to promptly and correctly assess all breaches of Soviet laws. It must also be rigorously ensured that none of the leaders who have sullied themselves evade punishment.

[Demidov] In other words, attempts are made even now to shield them from responsibility?

[Niyazov] Unfortunately, yes. Here is a recent example. After alerts from working people, it was established that G. Guvanzhov, former chairman of Khalachskiy Rayon's Kalinin Kolkhoz, in conspiracy with his subordinates, embezzled rice grown there. Some of the rice was "presented" to Khalachskiy Rayon and Chardzhou Oblast leaders. The embezzlers were taken to court. But here is a typical point. The actions of the Communists who shamelessly accepted the offerings were not appropriately assessed. It was only after the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee intervened that those who enjoyed easy pickings were duly punished.

Obkom First Secretary R. Khudayberdiyev failed to display principledness toward those who had lost their sense of modesty, propriety, and incorruptibility. Now we are trying to ensure that such people do not benefit from any indulgence.

Coming back to the letter, I must say that not everyone who "obeyed orders" has been an innocent victim. Some were driven by a desire to curry favor, while others were ready to falsify reports in hope of easy glory and sometimes even ill-gotten gains. All these matters are not as simple as the author imagines.

[Demidov] Now that the time for practical deeds has come, there is, of course, a need for a different kind of efficiency. In this context it is very important to heed the working people's voice and consult them. But heeding is still not everything. Here is a typical letter from residents of the settlement named for O.Kuliyev in Ashkhabad Oblast:

"We have repeatedly complained to various bodies about shortcomings in trade, medical, and consumer services. Other instances of inattention to our urgent problems have also been cited. But time is passing and we see no changes for the better, only formal letters."

[Niyazov] We also received this report last year. The Ashkhabadskiy Raykom was instructed to take exhaustive measures to satisfy the population's needs. A. Bayramov, first secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Raykom, gave assurances that everything would be done. Several months passed, however, and we received a further complaint from the settlement, this time signed by 88 residents. A special commission of the republican party Central Committee confirmed that the solemn assurances by rayon leaders were false and they had not even lifted a finger to fulfill their promise.

The rayispolkom chairman was dismissed from office for failing to take prompt measures, while the raykom first secretary was severely reprimanded and his service record was endorsed. Other leaders of the raykom, the oblast, and the Main Administration for Construction in the Karakum Region were also punished.

Of course, punishment is not everything. What is important is to satisfy the residents' justified demands. I can say that uninterrupted trade in fresh vegetables has been organized in the settlement, and the work of stores has improved on the whole. A new movie theater is under construction, and a kindergarten has been commissioned. Streets are being improved, and other problems that were raised are being successfully resolved. It is still too early to say that everything possible has been done, but the most important measures have been taken.

In this case we perceive something more important than just an isolated case involving a specific complaint. We are talking in general about efficiency at various levels of management, especially at grassroots level. All too often necessary decisions made by the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee are not implemented at gorkom or raykom level.

Desire for look good rather than practical measures -- this is what annoys people and often causes letters to higher bodies and editorial offices. Bureaucratism must be combated both "from above" and "from below."

[Demidov] It looks as if the letter from workers of Bayram-Aliyskiy Rayon's "Teze yel" Kolkhoz was prompted by initiative "from below." They reported their leaders' passive attitudes toward restructuring. The Mary Obkom was aware of the prevailing situation, but showed no activeness in eliminating the shortcomings.

[Niyazov] These facts were also examined at a session of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee Bureau. In its pursuit of gross output indicators, the farm overlooked urgent social questions and failed to create the necessary working and living conditions. The kolkoz leaders lost their sense of responsibility and disregarded the norms of democracy and the working people's requests. But here is something that is even more alarming: The party organization distanced itself from leadership and failed to display demandingness toward the culprits. The Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee Bureau relieved Raykom First Secretary R. Mamedov of his duties and punished other rayon and oblast leaders for indifference toward people's complaints. The question of the responsibility of the party committee secretary and the kolkhoz chairman was referred for examination by the party organization and the kolkhoz members' meeting.

[Demidov] The editorial mail contains quite a few repeat letters. Some of them have been prompted by inattention toward citizens' appeals in the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee. Evidently, here too it is too early to speak about restructuring?

[Niyazov] I can cite the following example. Many complaints still relate to abuses of official position by law enforcement organ officials. But so far neither the obkoms nor the Central Committee Administrative Organs Department study the submitted material in depth. The leadership of the republic's MVD and Prosecutor's Office has now been renewed, we hope that the situation will improve, but conditions still remain quite complex. These organs must be held substantially more accountable for studying incoming reports in depth and taking prompt measures. Our General Department is also to blame for superficial replies and blatantly formal letters, and it must also analyze incoming reports much more thoroughly.

By way of another example, a collective letter from Serakhskiy Rayon was examined for almost 6 months at the Central Committee Agricultural Department, with instructions to reply to PRAVDA. The sole reason is the lack of supplementary monitoring, and it is no accident that measures have not been taken on numerous other letters. Personal responsibility for this must be borne by those who were instructed to investigate the complaints. In short, restructuring is needed by everyone -- both locally and in the republican Communist Party Central Committee.

[Demidov] The process of renewal which has been launched in Turkmenistan inevitably comes up against the problem of the placement and education of cadres. There have been complaints from many rayons that there is simply a lack of a reliable cadre pool. Given the mass dismissals, this question is clearly of paramount importance. On the other hand, enterprising and energetic officials are sometimes dismissed for no apparent reason. V. Serina from Krasnovodsk wrote to us that her son was appointed a bread combine director. With no support from party organs or the relevant ministry, the young leader was left alone to cope with a neglected production unit, tried to organize it properly, but was dismissed as quickly as he was appointed.

[Niyazov] We will investigate this case, it is indeed possible that a mistake may have occurred. At the same time, however, I must say that now we also have to deal with quite a few cases involving groundless grievances. We must be more cautious with those who are champions of restructuring in words, while their deeds display inertia and irresponsibility. For example, the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee Bureau dismissed several leadership cadres from the republican State Agro-Industrial Committee and they, having lost their ministerial portfolios, feel aggrieved and are making no efforts in their new positions. Now is not the time for caprice. Everyone has had enough time to appraise his own strength. No one can be kind at society's expense. Every leader who is also a Communist must be assessed primarily by the results of his work.

As regards the cadre pool, this is indeed a problem of paramount importance. We can see right away that, in order to ensure a steady process of improvement in cadre policy, we need more than just our own pool. This is why we are relying on fraternal assistance from the other republics and oblasts. We have asked the CPSU Central Committee to continue assigning experienced and promising workers from different regions of the USSR to work in Turkmenistan's party, soviet, economic, and administrative organs. At the same time, we will be sending our own specialists for practical training.

Working people's letters still contain many complaints about party committee secretaries. Even after the replacement of numerous cadres! This is evidently the effect of the ideas of "leadership exclusiveness" and total license, which were cultivated for years on end. There are again instances of personal immodesty and an unconscientious attitude toward work. This means that the work we did with the existing pool was inadequate, and we are overlooking moral and ethical questions during practical training. Sometimes we are even unable to perceive a future leader's real character. He seems to create an impression of businesslike efficiency, but is already trying to look for an obedient entourage. In order to get hold of more personal benefits without concerns and worries... Cadres must be assessed time and again -- we cannot manage without this. This is where broad glasnost and letters are of great help.

[Demidov] While on the subject of immodesty. It is well known that the press carried reports about some leaders' passion for building luxurious residences. Readers wonder whether any measures have been taken.

[Niyazov] The republic today faces acute social problems, there is a shortage of housing, hospitals, and kindergartens. At the same time, prestige buildings, guesthouses, and residences were built to please certain individuals. Many leaders really lost their sense of proportion, but the appropriate conclusions have now been drawn.

There has been no building of residences at state expense anywhere the republic in the last 18 months. Kolkhoz and sovkhoz guesthouses have been converted as medical and children's preschool institutions. They already provide more than 1,700 hospital beds and 1,200 places in kindergartens and Young Pioneer camps.

So far 12 republican leadership officials have either completed or are in the process of completing the transfer of their residences and apartments with surplus housing area to local ispolkoms. They include B. Yazkuliyev, chairman of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; M. Gapurov and B. Atayev, former first secretaries of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee and the Tashauz Obkom respectively; Ye. Mitrin, first secretary of the Krasnovodsk Obkom, and others. The housing conditions enjoyed by other leaders, both present and past, regardless of their position or services, must be brought into line with legal and moral norms.

The vocation and duty of leaders and of every Communist lie not in privileges and benefits but in living and working conscientiously. This is particularly topical today, and we see it as our most important task to awaken this conscience everywhere and to channel the efforts of the republic's entire population toward implementing the tasks set by the party. Summing up the essence of the overwhelming majority of letters, it could be said that this is also their goal.

AZERBAIJAN LAW OFFICIALS PURGED FOR ABUSES

PM111349 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 2

[Editorial Office report under the "After Action by IZVESTIYA" rubric: "Too Long a Wait"]

[Text] A courtroom sketch published under the above title (IZVESTIYA No 103, 1987) described how two workers at the Azerbaijan SSR's Kutkashenskiy Agro-Industrial Association, general director A. Danakyan and accountant A. Bagdasaryan, indicted groundlessly for embezzlement and sentenced to the supreme penalty by the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Court, were falsely imprisoned for around 3 years, 21 months of which were passed in the death cell. However, a further, more careful and objective investigation showed that the embezzlement charge brought against these people was known to have been unsupported by evidence. In other words, a most flagrant case of abuse of power had occurred.

K. Bagirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, has informed the editorial office that the article "Too Long a Wait" was examined at the republic's Communist Party Central Committee. A pointed and principled assessment was made of the illegality that occurred during the investigation and the trial that resulted in director A. Danakyan and accountant A. Bagdasaryan being sentenced to death and imprisoned without grounds. No one responded to their numerous petitions. Only when the USSR Supreme Court quashed the sentence of the republic supreme court and the charges made against Danakyan and Bagdasaryan failed to be substantiated in a new investigation was the case against them dismissed.

The Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee analyzed the facts of these most flagrant breaches of socialist legality and imposed severe party and disciplinary penalties on all responsible officials guilty of illegality in this case.

A. Sultanov, first deputy republic prosecutor, and V. Bogomolov, deputy republic prosecutor, were severely reprimanded for failure to ensure socialist legality during the investigation and judicial examination of criminal cases, including the case of Bagdasaryan; they have been dismissed from their posts. F. Agamirov, former chief of the department in charge of the supervision of inquiries and investigation in the Azerbaijan SSR Prosecutor's Office internal affairs bodies, and T. Akhmedov, former assistant to the Kutkashenskiy Rayon prosecutor, who pressed the state prosecution in court, have been dismissed from the organs of the prosecutor's office, the latter also being expelled from the CPSU. Sh. Osmanov, investigator in charge of particularly important cases in the Azerbaijan SSR Internal Affairs Department, has also been dismissed from his post and expelled from the CPSU for groundlessly instituting criminal proceedings against Bagdasaryan and others. A. Kafarov, who handed down the conviction, has been recalled prematurely from his position as a member of the republic Supreme Court.

I. Ismailov, former chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Court, and A. Zamanov, former republican prosecutor, have been severely reprimanded. Leaders in the republic Internal Affairs Department Investigation Administration A. Rafiyev and A. Guliyev -- the latter of whom has been dismissed from the internal affairs organ -- who showed indifference to the petitions from the accused and thus committed impermissible errors during the investigation, have been punished by the party.

Guilty workers in the prosecutor's office, the militia, and court have been subject to party and disciplinary proceedings for all other instances of illegality detected. The republic party organization has adopted a number of measures designed both to improve the work style and methods of law-enforcement organs, the selection, placement, and training of cadres, and the ousting of compromised officials and to increase accountability and discipline. These questions were the subject of serious discussion at the Azerbaijan Communist Party Bureau.

AZERBAIJANI WRITERS DEBATE SHORTCOMINGS

PM110945 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Aug 87 p 2

[Report by LITERATURNAYA GAZETA special correspondents E. Agayev and Yu. Bugelskiy: "On the Path of Renewal"]

[Text] "The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January and June (1987) Plenums and the tasks of the republican writers' organization -- this topic was discussed at an Azerbaijan Writers Union Board Plenum in Baku. It was attended by R.E. Mekhtiyev, secretary of the republican Communist Party Central Committee, and V.M. Gulizade, Culture Department chief.

On the previous day there had been a conference at the Writers Union: "The Ecology of the Caspian and Publicists' Tasks." In recent years the Caspian has changed beyond recognition, many of the speakers lamented. Baku alone annually "presents" this unique natural phenomenon with millions of cubic meters of polluted effluent, fish stocks are dwindling, harmful discharges into the atmosphere in the Sumgait area exceed permitted norms... Having acquainted themselves with the authoritative views of scientists, the writers admitted that they had not fully appreciated the acuteness of the ecological situation in the region. [paragraph continues]

Immediate measures must be adopted "before it is too late," as an article on the Caspian in the paper ADABIYAT VE INDZHESENET (LITERATURE AND ART) was called.

It was essentially with publicistic work that the discussion began at the writers' plenum. The report delivered by Azerbaijan Writers Unioin Board First Secretary Anar talked about its role in the scale and tempo of restructuring. In this very area there are grounds for seriously criticizing Azerbaijan literature, which for some reason has been making slow progress on the path of renewal, he said. Of course, our publicistic work sometimes poses acute questions, but it is often not consistent enough in achieving final results. We have a kind of cop-out for our writer's conscience: I have raised a problem, but the fact that it has not been solved allegedly does not concern me. This is not enough today. Russian writers, obstinate and persistent in elaborating the themes they are addressing, be it the protection of Lake Baykal, the redirection of northern rivers, or the preservation of spiritual and cultural values, set a good example for us

Publicistic work in the journal AZERBAYDZHAN is in a bad way, its chief editor, poet Dzh. Novruz, admitted. For a long time the features department of LITERATURNYY AZERBAYDZHAN was compelled to stick to a "list of heroes," some of whom were not exactly heroes, the deputy chief editor, poet M. Vekilov, said. E. Kuliyev, chairman of the republican State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, noted that writers are active in television work. The poet N. Gasanzade, chief editor of ADABIYAT VE INOZHESENET, said that the reaction of the official authorities to items in the newspaper cannot satisfy either the editorial board or readers. But perhaps the point is that the standard of the publicists falls far short of the level of the problems they are dealing with -- that was the question posed by prose writer S. Azeri, deputy chief editor of the journal ULDUZ.

The creation of a special section in the union and the holding of a seminar for young publicists, an all-union conference in Baku and so forth, the report noted, must not of course divert attention from other literary concerns — prose, poetry, drama, and criticism. The epic novel spanning large periods of time, the heroic and tragic history of Baku oil, the events of the thirties, and very modern conflicts -- there is much to interest writers who are now able to address these themes in the light of glasnost and truth. The whole of our complex life must become an object of close scrutiny by writers.

Talking about the growing role of literature in international education, the keynote speaker stressed the need for the more active involvement of Azerbaijani writers in the all-union literary process. The creation of a center for artistic translation and literary links, like the one that has been operating successfully for a long time in Georgia, is long overdue.

The work of Azerbaijan Writers Union publications require radical restructuring, it was stressed at the plenum. A high standard of debate and tolerance of impartial criticism — this is a norm of the writer's life. The old approach is exemplified by the story of the article by the critic A. Mamedov about Azerbaijani prose in the eighties, originally intended for LITERATURNYY AZERBAYDZHAN. The journal's chief editor, I. Tretyakov, submitted the manuscript to... the then leadership of the Writers Union for its scrutiny. As a result the article did not see the light of day in the republic.

Unfortunately, I. Tretyakov himself, addressing the plenum, talked not so much about the creative problems and plans of his journal as about his treatment and the publication of his own books. [paragraph continued]

In reply N. Ibragimov, chairman of the Azerbaijan State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants, and the Book Trade, supplied information to the effect that 30 percent of the literature published in the republic is in Russian; as for I. Tretyakov's books, they are periodically published by the "Gyandzhlik" publishing house in substantial editions.

A solicitous attitude toward young writers and active support for talent should be the norm of literary life, it was noted at the plenum, as should accountability and glasnost in the work of the Writers Union Secretariat. Is it easy being young -- in literature? It means, according to poet V. Dzhebrailzade, experiencing constant resistance and critical assaults. He said that he had written a plan which was accepted for television, but on reflection he had withheld the work, considering it incomplete. Instead of pushing through your own poor efforts, is it not better to publish works which have not reached readers in the past -- for example, by Dzh. Dzhabarly, writer of Azerbaijani literary classics? As I understand it, he stressed, restructuring means making maximum demands on one's own creative activity.

Many serious questions were posed in the speeches by A. Masud (certification is taking place everywhere at the moment and it would be a good idea if we carried out here too, among the members of our creative union, she suggested), Azerbaijan People's Writer B. Bayramov (he handed over part of his fee for a future publication to the victims of the mudslide in Kelbadzharskiy Rayon), A. Dadashzade (who talked about the fate of national cultural values, the reduction in the number of schools teaching in Azerbaijani, and the quality of textbooks), G. Khalilov (what and whom are we afraid of, he asked, why do we not make haste, following the examples of central publishing houses, to print things that have never been published before?), and other plenum participants.

An organizational matter was considered. The plenum relieved Dzh. Novruz, secretary of the Writers Union Board, of the chief editorship of the journal AZERBADYDZHAN at his request. Yu. Samedoglu was appointed to the post. He was formerly in charge of the journal ULDUZ, which now has A. Abdulla as its chief editor.

After the plenum a large group of Azerbaijani writers and guests from Georgia and Armenia went to Kazakh and Shusha, where the traditional festivals of Vagif's poetry, celebrating his 270th anniversary, took place.

SOVIET ARMENIANS PETITION ON TERRITORIAL CLAIM

AU121722 Paris AFP in English 1503 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow, Aug 12 (AFP) -- Soviet Armenians have called on Soviet authorities to incorporate the small autonomous Soviet republic of Nakhitchevan into the Armenian Republic, an organizer of a petition signed by 75,000 Armenians here said. Nakhitchevan, bordering on Iran, was part of Armenia until 1924 when it was incorporated into the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan, despite being separated from it by a tract of the Armenian republic.

Robert Nazarian, a 39-year old physicist who is a member of Armenia's watchdog group for Soviet compliance with the Helsinki agreements, said the signatures had been sent to Aleksandr Yakovlev, a member of the Communist Party's Politburo and aide to party leader Mikhail Gorbachev. But so far no answer had been received and no government committee was looking into their demand, Mr. Nazarian said.

He contrasted the response with the treatment of claims by Crimean Tatars who demonstrated in Moscow last month for the right to resettle in their former homeland on the Black Sea. The Tatars had been deported by Soviet dictator Josef Stalin during World War II for alleged collaboration with the German army.

According to Mr. Nazarian, 90 percent of Nakhitchevan's population was Armenian in 1924, compared with 5 percent today. "Armenians were sent into exile by every means available", he said.

MOLDAVIAN PREMIER RESPONDS TO PAPER'S CRITICISM

PM121015 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 6 Aug 87 p 1

[Article by I. Kalin, chairman of the Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers, under the rubric "The Newspaper Spoke Out. What Has Been Done?": "'Turnaround'"]

[Text] The Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers has examined the article "Turnaround", published in SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 18-20 June 1987, and thinks that the questions it raises are timely and of great significance in the conditions of the restructuring of the activity of the republic's government being implemented in the light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee January and June (1987) Plenums. A decision was adopted on the question under discussion.

The shortcomings cited in the article actually occurred.

During the 10th and 11th 5-Year Plans the republic did not devote due attention to the comprehensive resolution of questions of the region's development. Decisions on siting productive forces and constructing and expanding enterprises were often made without sufficient study and examination by collegial leading organs and without taking into consideration Moldavia's place and role in the all-union division of labor and its natural and labor resources. This led to a serious lag in the development of the social sphere and extreme complexity in the ecological situation.

The bureaucratic style of activity of many republic management organs, the predominance of administrative-command methods of leadership, and the inertia and conservatism in the apparatus of a number of ministries and departments promoted a reduction in the development rates of the economy and the social sphere and the appearance of stagnation processes. The decisions of the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) and January (1987) Plenums created the necessary conditions and preconditions for resolutely overcoming the negative phenomena, but measures to practically implement them are not everywhere being carried out sufficiently energetically and purposefully.

The work of departments of the Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers Administration of Affairs is slow to improve and they often put the main emphasis on the preparation of numerous draft decisions rather than on practically ensuring restructuring. As before, the deputy chairmen of the Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers and the Administration of Affairs apparatus are devoting a great deal of attention to solving current questions of production and economic activity in sectors and enterprises under republic ministries, state committees, and departments. Existing stereotypes in work are hampering supervision of the effective execution of party and government decisions, which continues to be a "bottleneck" in the work of the government apparatus.

The deputy chairmen of the Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers, Gosplan, and Moldavian SSR ministries, state committees, and departments have been ordered to urgently tackle the practical implementation of the tasks set by the party to radically restructure economic management and develop a scientifically substantiated strategy for the republic's comprehensive economic and social development in the light of its place and role in the all-union division of labor, devoting special attention to the creation of a production and social infrastructure for intersectorial production units.

The ministers, state committee chairmen, and leaders of Moldavian SSR departments must step up their exactingness toward economic leaders and workers in the central apparatus with regard to strict execution of party and government decisions and state plan targets. They must impart more dynamism to the process of restructuring the work of sectors, resolutely stamping out any manifestations of bureaucracy and red tape, departmentalism, parochialism, or a formal approach to resolving social tasks.

The deputy chairmen of the Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers, the administrator of affairs, and his deputies are to take measures to restructure the work of the government apparatus in the light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum and the Fifth Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum, step up its professionalism and efficiency, and reinforce the responsibility of consultants and agents for supporting a specific sector of work. They must reduce the number of newly adopted resolutions and instructions and make monitoring of the actual execution of previously adopted decisions, especially those made after the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum, the focus of all work.

It is necessary to reduce to a minimum appeals from the Moldavian SSR Council of Ministers to union organs on questions of the supply of material and technical resources in accordance with funds allocated. It is necessary to demand that the Moldavian SSR Gosplan and the Moldavian SSR State Committee for the Supply of Petroleum Products fully meet their commitments with regard to the material and technical supply of economic sectors, without shifting responsibility for the resolution of these tasks onto the republic's government.

SILAYEV INTERVIEWED ON MANAGEMENT RESTRUCTURING

PM121631 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 12 Aug 87 p 1

[Own correspondent V. Kovalenko interview with I. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, under the rubric "The Restructuring of the Economy: The Top Tier of Management": "The Headquarters Must Look Ahead"; first paragraph is SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA introduction]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee June Plenum adopted an extensive program for the radical restructuring of the country's economy. Its essence lies in the transition from predominantly administrative to economic methods of leadership at all levels, a transition to the management of interests and, through interests, to the widespread democratization of economic life and the all-around mobilization of the human factor. In these conditions the organs of the central leadership of the national economy must also assume a qualitatively new form. Our correspondent has asked I. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to describe the key provisions for the restructuring of the ministries and departments in the physical production sphere set forth in a recent CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution.

[Kovalenko] Ivan Stepanovich, as is well known, economic restructuring centers on the enterprise. Enterprises have now been invested with extensive powers and rights in the shape of a law. If we recall that the sector headquarters has always been and, indeed, remains to this day the main agent restricting enterprises' independence, then, I think, the question asked by many of our readers will become understandable: Would it not be more logical simply to abolish the ministries?

[Silayev] Following formal logic, such a step may indeed appear expedient. However, proceeding from the essence of the question, we arrive at a different conclusion: The ministries, after all, are necessary precisely in order to create the conditions for the implementation of the Law on the State Enterprise and to ensure coordination of enterprise interests with those of the national economy. Where is the paradox here?

Only enterprises capable of independently implementing the whole cycle of expanded reproduction: scientific research and development -- investment -- production -- marketing -- servicing -- can operate and develop normally in conditions of self-financing. Yet how many such collectives are there in our country at the moment? Dozens, maybe hundreds. The others cannot cope with such tasks. This means that sectors must be reorganized. Amalgamations must be carried out wherever this is necessary; production must be merged with science and design facilities. In short, powerful modern associations must be formed which are capable of exercising the rights with which they have been invested in practice and taking full responsibility for them and of developing by themselves their own facilities [khozyaystvo] and social sphere. In addition, they must capable of ensuring net profit payments into the state budget.

However, by no means everywhere is it possible to create such large units whose subdivisions would be interconnected not formally but by a profound internal unity of interests. Therefore it is deemed expedient to create a new structural form -- the state production associations. [paragraph continues]

They will include production and science-and-production associations, scientific research institutes and design bureaus, technological, construction, transport, marketing, trade, foreign trade, educational, and other enterprises and organizations which will retain their independence as economically accountable [khozraschetnyy] units. The pooling of their potentials will make it possible to raise the level of production concentration and to resolve technical progress and social develoment problems more swiftly. The state production associations will be managed by a board of directors who will elect a director general from their number. Current issues will be dealt with by the administration of the leading enterprise or a specially appointed small apparatus which will have to be paid for via deductions from profit.

The general trend toward the concentration of production will have to be developed in parallel with the satisfaction of the objective need for small specialized associations -- industrial-and-trade associations, design-industrial-and-construction associations, and agro-industrial associations. We will also need engineering and service centers, and firms which specialize in the introduction of new developments and similar organizations capable of responding quickly to enterprises' needs and providing various kinds of services.

The transformation of existing enterprises and associations into large-scale units capable of independent development and the imparting to the sector structure of flexibility and the ability to operate harmoniously is a comlex and crucial task. The time to accomlish it is strictly limited -- the second half of this year and the whole of next year. Speaking objectively, there is no one apart from the ministries and departments who could cope with this work.

[Kovalenko] I agree. But for all its undoubted importance it is a tactical task. It is no coincidence that there is a clear time limit. And what is the sector headquarters' strategy in the new management conditions?

[Silayev] The chief task of ministries and departments is to unswervingly implement the party's economic policy. And the structural transformations we have just talked about are a very important part of it. But, generally speaking, the sector headquarters has to ensure the accelerated socioeconomic and scientific-technical development of sectors, satisfaction of the needs of the national economy and population in terms of high-quality products, work, and services, more efficient production, a bigger contribution to the growth of the national income, and the comprehensive solution of social tasks.

[Kovalenko] But in fact, Ivan Stepanovich, ministries used to be responsible for basically the same range of issues. So what is the difference?

[Silayev] The difference lies in the redistribution of rights and the new means of influencing enterprises. If you analyze the flood of criticism expressed of late, you quickly come to the conclusion that most of the shortcomings in ministries' work are due to the act that they assumed enterprises' functions, got bogged down in current matters, and were consequently unable to tackle the main tasks. And the second reason, closely connected with the first, is that in the end the only management tools were administrative methods.

In the new management conditions ministries and departments will not interfere in the ongoing activity of enterprises. The state 5-year plan becomes the main instrument for implementing the party's socioeconomic policy. Relationships with enterprises must be based on economic interest. This means that the sector headquarters' entire activity assumes a qualitatively different character.

The traffic control function currently performed by more than one-half of the apparatus disappears. Enterprises take over the formation and approval of annual plans. But there will be new tasks, such as the elaboration of control figures, state orders, and stable long-term economic normatives and quotas which act as an incentive to production collectives to operate with maximum efficiency. The eradication of departmental empire-building tendencies is to be a fundamentally important duty of ministries. They must prevent individual enterprises from wanting to occupy a monopoly position in their area and prevent excessive prime costs and prices, stagnation in the development of scientific-technical progress, and the creation of artificial shortages of particular articles, and make every effort to maintain the practice of the competitive approach to the solution of any problems that arise.

In this connection I want to note in particular the differences between the traditional and new management mechanisms in the way they operate. Having made an administrative decision, a leader can in principle expect it to start being implemented immediately, particularly as the decision contains specific measures, an indication of the order in which they are to be carried out, and even the time frame for attaining the goal. Economic levers operate in a completely different way. They act as mediators, merely creating an enterprise's interest in particular results. The collective decides independently precisely how it is going to achieve them. So there is an inevitable time lapse between the decision and the start of the changes it is supposed to bring about. In other words, a ministry worker must clearly appreciate that he cannot change anything today or even tomorrow. If he wants to keep up with events, even more so if he wants to keep ahead of them, he must live in the day after tomorrow, forecasting potential situations and laying down the conditions which will adjust their development in the required direction.

This is the crucial point. In switching to economic management methods, ministries will eventually be compelled to shift the center of gravity of their work to the future. The vital task for them will be that of studying national economic and foreign economic needs in terms of the sector's output, creating long-term forecasts, and defining priority areas.

Many of our problems today are due precisely to deficiencies in this very crucial area.

In fact, whichever of the ministries' main tasks we take -- satisfaction of the demand for output or the acceleration of scientific and technical progress, the improvement of the sector structure or investments policy, the deepening of specialization and cooperation or the improvement of enterprises' efficiency -- all these tasks demand not single decisions but long-term, interlinked programs which are adopted long before the problem becomes acute. The elaboration and implementation of such programs should become the main content of the activity of sector headquarters in the new conditions of economic management.

[Kovalenko] But that means that the ministries themselves must change radically -- their structure, numerical strength of the apparatus, cadres...

[Silayev] Certainly. These changes are already in progress. A merger has taken place, in particular, between the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building and the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Feed Production, and between the Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building and the Ministry of Power Machine Building. As a result their apparatuses have been cut by 760 people. The decision has been taken to convert the union republic ministries of power and electrification, the coal industry, ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, geology, and the petroleum refining and petrochemical industry into all-union ministries. In the future the phased amalgamation of a number of ministries and departments with similar and technologically related production components is envisaged.

The requirements of the new economic mechanism also dictate the nature of internal transformations. With the advent of the Law on the State Enterprise the need for a large apparatus engaged in day-to-day leadership disappears. As production is concentrated and enterprises go over to full economic accountability and self-financing, the main administrations for the leadership of subsectors will be eliminated and there will be a transition, as a rule, to a two-tier structure.

At the same time there must be a strengthening of the functional subunits of ministries and departments, where sector management will really be concentrated. This is no easy task. Success will depend largely on the competence, initiative, and creative activeness of specialists at this level.

In view of this, ministers and department leaders are granted the right to establish the staffing list of the central apparatus and to set official salaries as they consider necessary, on the basis of the total numerical strength laid down and of the wage fund. Here 70 percent of the wage fund savings resulting from cuts in the apparatus remains at their disposal.

Those are the main features of the restructuring of the top tier of sector management. Enormous, exceptionally crucial work lies ahead. The changes will basically affect every worker in the sphere of physical production. It is important not to permit rash, ill-considered decisions. It is deemed necessary to step up the role of the collegiums of ministries and departments and establish the fact that they are responsible for the efficiency of the sector's work and its end results. Sector councils will also be set up. This consultative organ will consist of leaders of leading enterprises, front-ranking workers, trade union representatives, scientists, and specialists.

Specific restructuring programs are now being drawn up in the ministries. They should clearly define the stages and their sequence, on the basis of the enterprises' real preparedness for the transition to full economic accountability, self-financing, and self-management, and also taking account of the restructuring of the statewide system of planning, material and technical supply, pricing, finance and credit, statistics, and accounting. These programs must be discussed comprehensively in the collegiums, at sector councils, and in the labor collectives. It is very important for the logic of the restructuring and its practical measures to be clear to and understood by everyone both in the ministry's central apparatus and at the enterprises. Only in this case will it prove possible to carry out this enormous tasks efficiently and without losses and to prevent breakdowns in the sectors of the national economy.

MEDIA REPORT 4-11 AUGUST AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS

4 August

LD050219 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 4 August. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

4 August

In Uzbekistan to date 4 million metric tons of fodder have been procured. This is one-third more than was laid in by this time last year. Haymaking is going well, especially in Samarkand, where the plan has been fulfilled for laying in fodder by over 110 percent. (0400)

The Odessa Oblast has coped with this year's plans for the procurement of strong wheats: 74,000 metric tons of high quality grain have been delivered to the granaries, which is 20,000 metric tons more than the target figures. (0801)

In Khabarovsk Kray, unprecedentedly heavy rain and large hailstones have afflicted one of the Kray's main agricultural rayons, the Oktyabrskiy Rayon: 150 millimetres of precipitation, which is nearly the 3-month norm, fell in 3 days. Fields, hay fields, and pastures situated in the floodlands of the Amur have been flooded. Hundreds of hectares of corn have been damaged by the hail: The roofs of houses and of economic structures in the villages of Blagoslovennoye and Stolbovoye have been destroyed. Interfarm power transmission lines have ceased to operate. In public sector hayfields, the damage is not great. The fodder producers are well aware of the whims of the climate of the Far East and the hay that has been procured is immediately stored beneath the reliable roofs of the storehouses, which are built on elevated sites. Today the onslaught of the bad weather began to abate. Extraordinary commissions and detachments of mechanizers, power supply men, and road workers set up in the rayon are eliminating the consequences. (0801)

Grain has been threshed on 2 million hectares, and harvesting of grain and pulses is underway in the farms of the south and those bordering on North Kazakhstan and Tselinograd Oblasts. Hot and dry weather has speeded up the harvest in Kazakhstan, so that farms bordering the northern virgin land have began harvesting crops and pulse crops. Grain has been threshed from 2 million hectares. (1100)

Harvesting corn for silage has begun in Turkmenia: 350 quintals are to be harvested from every hectare. (1100)

Fruit picking of plums, pears, and early apple varieties is underway in Georgia. The Kartalinskaya valley farms have begun peach harvesting with up to 100 quintals per hectare being produced on advanced farms. This is considerably more than planned. (1100)

Dnepropetrovsk Oblast farmers have sold the state their first 100,000 metric tons of strong and valuable wheat. Winter crops yield is currently 36 quintals per hectare. (1500)

To date, grain and pulse crops, excluding maize, have been threshed in the Ukraine on 6.5 million hectares, or 55 percent of the area to be harvested. While the harvest is virtually completed in the southern oblasts, it is in full swing in the north and west of the Ukraine. [Moscow Television Service in Russian, 1700]

5-6 August

LD070421 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 5-6 August. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

5 August

Bread grain has been threshed on the first 500,000 hectares in Orenburg Oblast, and harvesting in gaining pace in the Mari Non-Chernozem Zone and Tataria. But things are not going smoothly everywhere. The heatwave, followed by drenching rain, reduced yields. No wonder PRAVDA says in an editorial that the harvest requires initiative and enterprise. (0400)

Wheat harvesting continues in Kazakhstan. More than 100,000 hectares of these crops have already been threshed. This year more than 5 million hectares of wheat is being cultivated according to intensive technology in Kazakhstan. (1100)

6 August

Bread grain has been harvested in the Ukraine from an area of 9 million hectares. More than 300,000 hectares of grain crops, 1 hectare in 10, have been harvested in Belorussia. (0600)

Farms in Krasnodar Kray are completing the harvest drive. About 1.4 million tons of strong wheat varieties have already been received by bread grain reception enterprises. (1100)

Feed crop procurement has reached a decisive stage in Kazakhstan. Two-thirds of the planned volume of coarse feed crops have been removed to cattle-wintering stations so far. Southern oblasts are doing well and could do even better but for the poor work being done in Turgay, North Kazakhstan, East Kazakhstan, and Uralsk Oblasts. The agro-industrial authorities need to remind themselves that time is running out and no reserves should be spared to ensure good supplies of feed crops. (1300)

The 15 rayons of the Kuban in the Krasnodar Kray have fulfilled the plan for wheat delivered to the state and are selling wheat over and above the plan. (1800)

7-8 August

LD090012 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 7-8 August. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

7 August

In Omsk Oblast by today 1 million tons of hay have been made, nearly 90 percent of te plan. Good weather and collective contracting are responsible for such high results. In Moskalenskiy, Omskiy, Russko Olyanskiy, and Pavlogradskiy Rayons, three-quarters of the checked hay is of first class quality. (0400)

Over one-quarter of the area under cereals has been harvested in Mordovia. (0801)

Around 700,000 tonnes of grain have reached the elevators in Rostov Oblast. (1500)

The farms of Khabarovsk Oblast have started threshing perennial grass for the second time. Although the pace of feedcrop procurement in the oblast is somewhat higher than last year, it will be very difficult to achieve 100 percent harvest. Drought has let down the farmers, and the shoots of perennial grass have been destroyed on almost one-third of all the area planted with it. Farmers are trying to use reserves to ensure cattle wintering. (2330)

8 August

The farms of Uzbekistan began harvesting corn for silage. The republic plans to make about 4 million tonnes of silage this season. Uzbekistan plans to stock 1 and 1/2 times the normal amount of feed crops. (0000)

The sale to the state of the first 50,000 tonnes of grain is being completed today by farms in Saratov Oblast. (0400)

Farms in Kurgan Oblast are completing winter crops harvesting. The winter crops take up about one-tenth of the crop area. Crops have suffered and yield has decreased because of the June drought, however, some farms show high results. (0400)

Rural workers in the Don area started selling grain to the state. About 700,000 tonnes of the new harvest has been despatched to the elevators. Special attention is being paid to quality. (1000)

The threshing of early grain crops has been started on the second million hectares in Volgograd Oblast and preparations are being made to sow winter crops, since the grain has cleared from more than half of the area. (1500)

9-10 August

LD110050 [Editorial report] the following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, in 9-10 August. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

9 August

More than 2.5 million tonnes of grain have reached the elevators in Krasnodar Kray. (0700)

Farms in Kurgan Oblast have started harvesting spring wheat, which has ripened 2 weeks earlier than usual this year. Grain and feed crops are ready for harvesting in Tataria. Because of the great heat, the first hay harvest was not abundant. This is being supplemented by a second hay mowing from sown fields, during which 350-400 quintals of greens are being harvested per hectare. (0800)

Despite the rain, early cereals and pulse crops have been threshed on over half the sown area in Belgorod Oblast. Yields of winter wheat are exceeding 35 quintals per hectare on many farms. Sales of grain to the state are under way. (1100)

Agricultural workers in Kirghiziya have started harvesting sugar beet seeds. (1100)

According to the Ukraine State Agro-Industrial Committee, 60 percent of grain in the republic has been threshed. (Moscow Television Service in Russian, 1700)

10 August

Harvesting has started on farms in the Angara region. Agricultural workers have to gather grain crops from almost 900,000 hectares. The harvest has coincided with the start of the laying in of feed crops. (0100)

In Tajikistan feed crops are being stocked. Through today, 1.3 million tonnes of coarse feed crops have been stocked, over 80 percent of the annual plan. Farms in mountainous rayons--Garmskiy, (Khayzabadskiy,) and Komsomolobadskiy--are stocking feed crops. This year in Tajikistan over 1.5 million tonnes of coarse feed crops will be stocked. (0204)

The first million tonnes of grain from Rostov Oblast have been sold to the state. They plan to sell no less then 3.1 million tonnes of grain to the government this year. (0400)

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Stavropol Kray delivered their millionth tonne of grain to the state today. Harvest has not been good everywhere in the kray. Almost one-third of winter crops had to be additionally sown or fully resown because of weather conditions. Right before harvesting, a number of fields were damaged by rain and hail. Fields sown with peas were particularly damaged. (1100)

11 August

LD120112 [Editorial report] The following is a compilation if reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 11 August. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

The first 1 million tonnes of wheat has been threshed by farms in Belgorod. (0200)

Farms in Kurgan Oblast began harvesting grain crops. In the last few days, crops from over 50,000 hectares have been rolled into windrows. The hot, dry summer has caused spring crops to come up early. Immediately after threshing winter rye, many farms began harvesting wheat. Harvesting and the sowing of winter crops are taking place simultaneously. (0200)

Today in Mordovia, cereals have been threshed from over one-third of the entire area. Over 100,000 tonnes of wheat have been sold to the government, one-third of the plan. (0400)

This year grain crops being cultivated by intensive technology account for 44 percent of total sowings in the Ukraine. Particularly good results have been obtained on the kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the republic's forest-steppe zone. With the onset of mass harvesting, however, rain and gusting winds have become more frequent, and the swollen grain has been flattened in many areas. Harvesting unit crews are seeking to carry out the harvest in 6-8 days instead of the usual 10-12 days. That is the only way to preserve everything that has been grown. The Ukrainian State Agro-Industrial Committee reports a good harvest has been grown in the overwhelming majority of oblasts. Many farms in the Crimean, Odessa, and Nikolayev Oblasts, however, have dragged out the harvest for no good reason and are losing grain. Deployment of harvesting equipment between farms and between rayons will be used more widely to speed up the work. (0800)

Winter crops sowing has started in Semipalatinsk Oblast. (0800)

The first million hectares of grain has been threshed in Saratov Oblast and the winter crop harvest is almost over. Attention is now being focused on barley. There is a 18 to 19 quintal per hectare yield in the Balashovskiy, Romanovskiy and Samoylovskiy Rayons. (1100)

Farms in Voronezh Oblast have procured 1 million tonnes of grain, including more than 200,000 tonnes of strong wheat. This shows that harvesting and grain sales are going much better than before. (1800)

Harvesting has begun in Belorussia, in the non-Chernozem Zone of the RSFSR, and in a number of farms in Siberia and the North Caucasus Region. Unfortunately, speed has not been achieved everywhere. The harvest has been unjustifiably drawn out in Kirghiziya and Tajikistan. Kuybyshev and Kurst Oblast farms are slow in getting into the swing of it. Nearly all farms in Orel, Bryansk and Tula Oblasts have started harvesting but the same cannot be said of other oblasts in the central RSFSR. The harvest has been cleared from only one-quarter of the sown area in (Volgovyatskiy) rayon. It is essential that there be no delay here. The time has come for winter sowing. In a number of places, rain has made the farmers' work harder, but it is possible to speed up harvesting and to raise work quality by flexible use of technology, and a skillful combination of direct combining and windrow harvesting. (1800)

PROBLEMS IN SPREADING FAMILY CONTRACT VIEWED

PM120843 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Aug 87 First Edition p 2

[Doctor of Economic Sciences Prof G. Shmelev article: "The Entire Family Should Join the Contract"]

[Text] Moscow -- Even now, when the family contract has become established in the countryside, disputes over it continue. Doubts remain: Is it efficient, is it not a diversion from the main path of development of the agro-industrial complex? I think that the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum answered these questions bluntly and unequivocally. But some rural leaders and specialists are temporizing and are in no hurry to create family livestock units and links. Frank hostility to this form of labor organization is also encountered.

Maybe the family contract does indeed "not fit in with" socialist production relations? This is precisely what its opponents are affirming. Let us try to investigate. Land is allotted to the link yet remains public property. The output produced by the collective, minus wages in kind, belongs to the farm. The priority of public interests is retained in distribution: The wages fund is closely linked with fulfillment of the target. The family acts on the basis of genuine economic accountability [khozraschet]. The family contract is in effect economic accountability brought down to the level of the individual family, as the elementary production cell. Finally, the contract agreement brings the principle of planning to the work of the link. Thus the doubts are unfounded.

Here I would like to recall Lenin's words on the importance of personal interest as a motivating factor in building the new society. This in no way denies the priority of nationwide interests under socialism. Anyhow, in general it is pointless to contrast large and small subdivisions, family and "regular" subdivisions. These are the wrong criteria. In a large collective with an individual piecework system the public interest may be "eroded" and isolated. Conversely, the members of a small team or a link where the contract is in force feel that they are fully masters of production. The intensive labor collectives, where productivity is three to four times higher than in neighboring subdivisions, are a clear example of this.

The family contract, which successfully combines personal and public interests, is equally efficient. When people have land and implements of labor placed at their disposal, they begin to be thriftier with the resources with which they have been entrusted. The Central Committee June plenum cited specific examples of the work of such collectives.

You can judge how the attitude to production changes from the following examples. On one Dagestan farm a link leader said that after the family had been allotted a vine plantation he could not, as before, cut a few bunches for visitors to the kolkhoz: His relatives opposed this generosity. Another case: In a suburban farm in Rostov Oblast the link leader did not allow leaders to take onions for public catering until they were fully ripe.

Another thing is also well known. Family collectives markedly "complicate" life for specialists by demanding that they supply resources at the right time. These links also deal a serious blow to petty tutelage and administration by decree. Attempts to limit the collective's independence and initiative are usually rebuffed. This is natural: A worker changes from a mere executor into an organizer of production, he makes decisions independently, and he is materially accountable for the results of his labor.

Usually these links form parts of teams. But another economic structure is also possible on farms, as the experience of Georgia's Mestiyskiy Rayon shows. Sometimes teams, sections, branches, and other subdivisions are abolished. A simple system operates: The kolkhoz board (the sovkhoz management) is the peasant homestead. A substantial proportion of the managers linked with auditing and accounting are transferred directly to the production unit or are dismissed. The auditing and accounting functions are transferred directly to the family. Thus there is a real opportunity to substantially reduce the management apparatus with no detrimental effect. At the present it totals 1.3 million people on kolkhozes and sovkhozes alone. Add to this figure the obviously "overpopulated" rayon agro-industrial association offices. The formal introduction of the contract and economic accountability has not yet had an effect on the size of the apparatus.

However, the reduction and simplification of the management system and its conformity with the agro-industrial complex' true requirements is a primary task in improving the economic mechanism. With the shift to the family contract, the nature of the work of specialists and leaders changes. They spend less time organizing production and supervising and are more involved in fulfilling their direct duties with regard to stepping up the standard of production and material and technical supply.

What is impeding the broad assimilation of the family contract today? There are no serious objective reasons. Of course prejudices and timidity are taking their toll. But more often formalism is the obstacle. Families are not allotted the land and the livestock units for a long time, wages contracts are violated, and poor use is made of incentives like payment in kind.

It is well known that the family contract is particularly effective on small livestock units and in inaccessible sectors. In a number of cases it could even be possible to eliminate kolkhozes and sovkhozes and give local organs of power the task of concluding contracts with collectives of relatives. Or, say, give the task to the rayon agro-industrial association, consumer cooperatives, and timber procurement establishments. This is clearly advisable in chronically unprofitable farms high in the mountains or in small scattered sectors with low fertility.

I have often heard farm leaders say: We want to assimilate the family contract, but we do not know where to begin and what normative documents to rely on. Indeed, the appropriate recommendations were elaborated over the course of several years. It is all the more surprising that various zones have accumulated experience of effectively employing this form of labor organization. It is important to generalize what has been achieved and "weed out" everything impeding the development of the innovation.

Of course, it is impossible to pass over in silence the negative phenomena which make themselves felt when transferring the family to the contract. Why hide it; in some places people try to achieve a high end result not so much by mechanizing labor and improving its organization as by developing it over-intensively. When things are allowed to drift and control is relaxed, people sometimes use the family contract to conceal abuses and private enterprise activity.

In some families where authority is unquestioned a situation may arise in which youths and girls are not allowed to go away to study or their desire to work in another profession is not taken into consideration. Sometimes other complications and contradictions also arise. Shortcomings can be avoided if the farm properly sets about assimilating this form of nonregulated work.

ECOLOGICAL IMPACT OF FARMING PRACTICES DEBATED

PM111013 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Aug 87 p 10

[Interview with Academician A.A. Nikonov, president of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences, by writer Valeriya Shubina, under the rubric "Restructuring: Step by Step": "Shrinking Land. Scientist and Writer on Topical Problems of Intensive Crop Farming" — no place or date of interview given]

[Text] [Shubina] On one occasion, at a session devoted to environmental protection, the intensification of agriculture was described as... "intensification." The speakers attacked agrarian scientists, said nasty things about 1948 — the "black" session of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences [VASKHNIL] — and spoke of the many follies committed by the academy and of how it now intends, using this actual intensification, to poison us all with chemicals. To a certain extent, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, I shared the audience's indignation, but at the same time I thought to myself: Why should an academy which makes tremendous efforts to boost our agriculture deserve such intolerance toward its work?!

[Nikonov] I know of no other detachment of creative workers subjected to such systematic criticism as agrarian scientists. Moreover, this criticism has not always been justified. There were times when people tried to look among them for "dunces" guilty of real or imagined sins.

We cannot forget the now generally known fact that agrarian science suffered most under the big stick of command-administrative methods. That's how it was in the thirties, as well as in the forties and fifties. N.I. Vavilov, for example, with his strictly scientific approach, did not fit in the framework of the directives of those times. But then Lysenko "and company" fit in only too well. All this cost science, production, and the country dearly. And this went on not just for 1 or 2 years but for decades on end.

[Shubina] But the academy is now to be congratulated! I learned that a group of agrarian and economic scientists were rehabilitated 16 July this year, including Chayanov, Kondratyev, Chelintsev, Makarov, Yurovskiy... A total of 15 persons who were subjected to repressions and perished in Stalin's time.

[Nikonov] Yes. The USSR Supreme Court recognized their innocence. Most of them belonged to the organizational-productive school, which was a leader in world agrarian science. They played an active part in drafting normative documents for the transition from grain requisitioning [prodrazverstka] to tax in kind [prodnalog] and, until the thirties, were consultants to numerous state institutions on questions of agrarian policy.

A.V. Chayanov was a major theoretician on cooperative questions and organizer of the cooperative movement in our country; N.D. Kondratyev was the founder of the theory of economic development "cycles" named after him and organizer and leader of the Market Study Institute; A.N. Chelintsev was a theoretician on the deployment of agricultural production; N.P. Makarov was a theoretician on peasant farms and later on the organization of socialist enterprises; L.N. Yurovskiy was a scientist in the sphere of money circulation...

During the last 70 years, the country's agricultural science has traveled a complex and contradictory path. But its best representatives never sinned against the truth. No one is trying to absolve agrarian science of responsibility for the state of our agriculture, but I think that it would be incorrect to blame it entirely for all the social, economic, moral, and other ills.

And another important point. People still believe that science is omnipotent. This is nice to know, of course. But how can science "compensate for" and correct elementary economic mismanagement?

[Shubina] Some agrarian scientists are still inclined toward dogmatism. Even now individual recommendations take on pathological forms. Higher yield per unit area is the paramount problem, especially now, when we hear nothing but: "We're lagging behind, we're lagging behind, we're lagging behind!" But what is the price of intensification? This is what perturbs people. Indeed, can anyone guarantee that the norms for application of chemicals are harmless? Of course, the harvest loss inflicted by parasites, diseases, and weeds is great. But why rely so much on chemicals? It is terrifying to just read the instructions: herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, nematocides, acaricides, retardants...

[Nikonov] Unfortunately, many people are used to work according to the principle: Either chemicals or nothing. Chemicals are a powerful means for boosting crop farming productivity, but not the only one. Forests, fallow lands, fertilizers, water -- everything plays its part. What is needed is a sensible and rational base rather than the worship of one idol after another. We call for a comprehensive and systematic approach from the rostrum, but matters are different in reality. There we are, even importing grain from overseas. Now it would be unrealistic to talk about giving up chemicals. We ought to be talking about intelligent application of fertilizers. About introducing them in the soil in good time and at the necessary depth, rather than throwing them just anywhere, in heaps along river banks or in fields.

[Shubina] Even so, it seems to me that the crisis can also be explained by the fact that plant protection has turned out to be the most vulnerable link in the system of intensive techniques. For example, there is not a single plant protection institute in the vast region between the Urals and the Pacific, all there is a crop farming and chemicalization institute. And this is in Siberia, with its vulnerable ecosystems and extreme conditions, where even the residue of pesticides decomposes more slowly than in the European part of the country!

[Nikonov] The "availability of scientific support" in the region beyond the Urals as a whole is considerably lower than in the country's European part. This is why the reinforcement of scientific subdivisions in Siberia is also important for many other sectors. This is not only a social but also a practical problem. The development of biological compounds is a relatively young branch of science, but a highly promising one. It will be developed in conjunction with chemicalization in Siberia. We already have a Biological Plant Protection Methods Institute in Kishinev. Good work on biological methods is also being done in Tashkent. We still cannot abandon pesticides, and I would be sinning against truth if I were to say otherwise. What is important is to show concern for not exceeding the permissible levels.

[Shubina] But, as far as I know, our country still has not developed speedy methods of detecting pesticide residues in vegetables and feed grasses. Laboratories have been set up, but they do not perform their functions. We thus have high yields on the one hand, and toxins capable of building up in the soil and plants on the other. Furthermore, different plants have different concentrations of permissible doses, but cabbages, cucumbers, and watermelons are particularly "thirsty" in this context.

[Nikonov] It seems to me that toxicological assessments ought to be done by medical personnel. Just as state acceptance is independent of enterprises, sanitation services like these ought not to be dependent on the State Agro-Industrial Committee.

[Shubina] While preparing for this conversation with you, I met V.I. Kiryushin, corresponding member of VASKHNIL and director of the Siberian Institute for Crop Farming and Chemicalization, as well as scientific staffers from the Plant Protection Department. During the conversation there was mention of the name of Academician M.S. Gilyarov, who advocated integrated (combined chemical and biological) methods to combat parasites and weeds. Now they are hardly ever applied. Why?

[Nikonov] This is not true. We are in favor of integrated methods, combining biological, mechanical, chemical, and other principles either singly or as a whole, and are developing them. But whether chemical, biological, or integrated, these are all means of suppression. And the most rational method is the selection method. It is necessary to develop resistant varieties, even though this is exceptionally hard work. After all, there still are no absolutely resistant varieties.

[Shubina] Is it worth recalling for the umpteenth time that, in mutual relations with the land, the entire package of agrarian problems demands primarily morality and a broader humanitarian basis?... The only point to be admitted is this: We have lost much by overlooking this principle. We could not even be bothered to leave any sanctuaries or nature reserves when developing the European territory. Now, before our very eyes, the last feather-grass steppe in the Ukraine is being trampled and eaten up by sheep from the stockraising institute!

[Nikonov] You mean "Aksaniya-Nova," of course? Many people are worried about its future. For the time being, "Aksaniya-Nova" is a subordinate link of the Ukrainian M.F. Ivanov Scientific Research Institute for Stockraising in Steppe Regions, but the academy is taking measures to return it to the VASKHNIL Presidium's direct administration. Jointly with the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control, we will organize the monitoring (permanent observation) of the natural environment there.

After all, we have the agricultural institute in Voronezh Oblast, where V.V. Dokuchayev developed a model of stable farm management in the Kamennaya Stepa 100 years ago which is still being used today.

There is also great interest in our oldest scientific institution in the sphere of agriculture -- the Nikitskiy Botanical Gardens, which conducts work not only on subtropical horticulture but also on nature observation.

[Shubina] If you recall, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, my article in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA was the reason for our first meeting. At that time you invited me to a session of the academy presidium, which discussed the article "The Botanical Garden." Listening to the speeches, I realized that the problem of such ancient institutions as the Nikitskiy Gardens will never be solved if the questions of turning territories into reserves and the boundaries of usable land and, perhaps, a memorial area, are not spotlighted. Departments -- powerful ones and not so powerful ones -- have constantly encroached and continue to encroach on land that others have treasured since time immemorial. It used to be to build dachas, now it is to build their own sanatoriums, houses, and so forth. It is constantly necessary to defend something. The 16-year-old Isilkul reserve for beneficial insects -- the first such reserve in the country -- is threatened with destruction. The area of feather-grass steppe near Tselinograd that was protected through the efforts of Academician Barayev has still not been legalized. Yet land is being fatally plowed up in the Asian part of the country...

[Nikonov] Indeed many parts of the country have violated the ecological balance and the sensible correlation between plowland and natural land. When intensive techniques are introduced everywhere the need to expand arable land will diminish. Complete plowing leads to surface water carrying away soil particles, the soil dries out, and its fertile layer is blown away by dust storms. Now, as one scientist graphically put it, fields are a sieve through which nutrients and water pass. Lakes evaporate, small rivers dry up and the microclimate changes. The problem of land use would also solve many questions of nature protection, leaving many reserves for great and little bustards... As for the Nikitskiy Garden, the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences Presidium has adopted a resolution on it and it is under our control.

Many timeservers who live only for the present have appeared. What D.I. Mendeleyev called "lack of personal responsibility in crop farming" has taken place. We are paying for it now. Essentially there has been no interest or responsibility -- material, administrative, or legal -- attached to those working and using the land: construction workers, highway workers, power workers, communications workers, irrigation workers... Hitherto we have just "scared" people: Fines have not matched the scale of the damage. Violators have paid trivial amounts, and out of the state's pocket, while the damage done to society is irreversible.

[Shubina] Suffice it to say that 2 million hectares are currently used for industrial and city dumps alone, and in the last 20 years millions of hectares of land have been allocated for 20 years millions of hectares of land have been allocated for nonagricultural purposes. But we are not as well off for land as we think... The amount of land available is shrinking.

[Nikonov] Whereas 25 years ago we had more than 1 hectare of plowland per capita, we now have just 0.82 hectares. By law the organizations and departments using land temporarily are obliged to restore it. But the work is usually left to agriculture. Land, like water, has its price and its value. Nihilism has prevailed for many decades on this issue. And since there was no price a corresponding attitude reigned. Now this will soon end.

[Shubina] Scientists forecast that the proportion of arable land per rural inhabitant will fall. We are witnessing population growth, urbanization, and soil degradation... This means that the opening up of new land is inevitable. But, as a rule, such land is situated in either very dry or extremely damp areas. I would like to know your opinion of land reclamation. Can we do without it, as certain people think.

[Nikonov] Poor quality execution provides grounds for extreme judgments. In some places land is waterlogged, there are large tracts of dry and waterless land, there is acid, heavy, and saline land often strewn with stones or subject to alkalinization. Not undertaking land reclamation -- that is, soil improvement -- under our conditions means placing a barrier in the way of agricultural output growth and any progress in crop farming. It is important for this work to be of an agro-ecological nature and not just an engineering nature -- as is the case at present -- that land reclamation is carried out comprehensively and economically, and that water resource land reclamation (irrigation and drainage) is combined with other forms. And we must not be geared purely to large-scale projects. It is necessary to combine these with smaller-scale forms, the construction of ponds and reservoirs, and the regeneration of small rivers.

[Shubina] I am not an opponent of land reclamation. I am just alarmed by people who forget about nature when carrying it out. For instance, they drain swamps that are used by rare birds.

[Nikonov] Ecological awareness is what we need. In the past a reaper could bypass a nest, but now in a combine you cannot see what lies below. Unfortunately, we are not yet tackling the ecological problem comprehensively.

[Shubina] Our country, which was the first in the world to plant artificial forests back in the time of Peter the Great, and which has unique experience in creating oases in the steppe (the famous Kamennaya Steppe of Dokuchayev, which we discussed, the Great Anadol near Marnupol, and the Starobelskiy Tract) has in recent years relaxed its attention to windbreak forestation. We lag behind many countries in this area. In China, for instance, as many windbreak strips have been created in the last 5 years as in all the years of Soviet power in our country. A green barrier 6,000km in length stands on the border of the desert, and in southern China a similar strip provides protection against monsoons. Special strips are created in Britain to obviate the use of chemical pesticides. Plowland, eroded land, pasture, and sands -- the area of which currently exceeds the area of plowland -- all need the protection afforded by forests. A state's overall ecological strategy is inconceivable without forestation.

[Nikonov] You referred to the period of Peter the Great. At that time timber was mainly used to build houses and ships. But with time it became clear that man-made forests could be a means of struggling for harvests and that they help to change wind patterns, increase soil and air moisture, alter the temperature system, and protect the soil from weathering and leaching. Unfortunately, there is currently virtually no agricultural forest reclamation service. A once powerful administration has been reduced to a job for two people in the agro-industrial complex. In this form the service is incapable of solving the problem. A program for creating windbreak strips does exist at the academy and was recently examined by the presidium.

At the end of May during an extramural session of the academy in Volgograd we examined the problem of the stability of agricultural production and the struggle against drought. The incipient warming of the global climate that is expected to continue in the foreseeable future in our latitudes, particularly in the country's southern regions, may increase aridity. We must always prepare for the worst. We have developed an overall program for improving the stability of agricultural production aimed at successfully combating droughts and other unfavorable natural factors.

[Shubina] To sum up our conversation, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, it can be said that man's relationship with the land and with nature as a whole has become very complicated over the last few decades. Many problems have appeared. And they must be comprehensively resolved. Otherwise high yields (milk yields, weight gains) will turn into a disaster for the land. We must not miscalculate...

[Nikonov] Absolutely right. Intensive techniques require great knowledge and high morality and conscientiousness on the part of scientists and crop farmers. The land has suffered for too long from cliched approahes, complacency, and lack of responsibility. It will not accept this any more.

I would like to say that we have only examined one aspect -- the ecological aspect. But there is another aspect that is no less important -- the socioeconomic aspect. Here too the forms and methods of a solution have been found recently. These are above all the retention of land for many years by primary labor collectives, subcontracting links, small groups, and families. The first steps have been very promising. The land is obtaining responsible and interested masters. This is the right road.

STATISTICS COMMITTEE REPORTS HARVEST FIGURES

LD121539 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] The reports we have received on the progress in the harvesting of crops indicate that, according to the figures of the USSR Goskomstat [Union Republic State Committee of the USSR for Statistics] up to 10 August grain and pulse crops with the exception of corn had been mown on almost 38.5 million hectares. This is 35 percent of the sown area. In the past week the gap between mowing and threshing was reduced somewhat; however, it remains great. Now the machinery in the regions where the fields have already been cleared is being transferred to the Kazakh virgin land and to Siberia. The intensity in the fodder fields is not slackening. Although rather more hay and haylage has been obtained than for the same period last year, the farms' supply of fodder is lower now because of the quality. The picture is especially alarming in the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Tadzhikistan, and Armenia.

YAKUTIYA BLAST TO STIMULATE OIL, GAS INFLOW

LD131226 Moscow TASS in English 1204 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 13 TASS -- An underground nuclear blast conducted yesterday in Yakutiya, in the north of the Soviet Union, was within the framework of experimental work intended to stimulate the inflow of oil and gas from low-permeability rock lying among thick beds of rock salt. A statement to this effect was made to a TASS correspondent by Aleksey Zolotov, head of the oil and gas administration of the USSR Geology Ministry.

"Rock containing oil and gas, but unable to give it out without external impacts is broadly found in the entrails of the earth. Particularly high is the potential of such rock in East Siberia and in Yakutiya," Aleksey Zolotov explained. "The USSR Geology Ministry is studying the possibility of working such deposits. To this end a special technology with the use of underground blasts of nuclear charges is applied.

"Such work was conducted by us before the USSR adopted its unilateral moratorium on nuclear blasts was in effect in the USSR, albeit the experiment has not been completed. In 1987, work was resumed. Three blasts have been conducted. A study of oil in-flow from the bed is currently underway in the field."

Answering the question of how the safety of this work to the environment is ensured, Zolotov said that "blasts are conducted in special, reliably hermatically sealed wells. The technology of work with the use of underground blasts of nuclear charges is well mastered, reliable and excludes any escape of radioactive products to the surface, into subterranean waters and the atmosphere. In so doing use is made of modern instruments and control equipment capable of registering even insignificant changes in the environment. [no end quotation mark as received]

The explosions were conducted at a large depth. Wells were drilled in the area of the beds and then a nuclear charge was placed in them. The bores were cemented up to the very surface. After a careful check on the air tightness of the shaft a blast was conducted. After the blast there was not even a deformation of the upper layer of the earth in the area of the well.

In about half a year the bores will be opened and then the experts will sum up the final results of the experiment. There is no doubt about its high effectiveness, Aleksey Zolotov said.

DEMICHEV AWARDS, ADDRESSES USSR, SYRIAN COSMONAUTS

LD101045 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 10 Aug 87

[From the "Time, Events, and People" program presented by Igor Grigoryev and Natalya Nekrasova]

[Text] At the Kremlin today, Petr Nilovich Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, presented awards for the successful Soviet-Syrian space flight. By a decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the crew's commander, Aleksandr Viktorenko, and the Syrian cosmonaut researcher Muhammad Faris have been awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union and presented with the Order of Lenin and Gold Star Medal for their courage and heroism. For his active participation in the backup for the space flight, Syrian citizen Munir Habib has been awarded the Order of People's Friendship. Presenting the awards, Comrade Demichev said:

[Begin Demichev recording] Dear comrades, and friends: Today we are honoring the 12th international crew to be launched from the Baykonur Cosmodrome during the program for peaceful space research. On this occasion, the crew included Muhammad Ahmed Faris, citizen of the friendly Syrian Arab Republic. It gives me great pleasure to welcome you here to the Kremlin, dear cosmonauts Aleksandr Vikorenko and Muhammad Faris, on behalf of our party's Central Committee the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government, and to convey to you the congratulations and good wishes of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, and Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov.

I wish to remark in particular that your flight took place at a notable time when the Soviet people, inspired by the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January and June plenums, and involved in the march of the great restructuring, are waging a persistent struggle for the advance of our homeland toward new targets in all spheres of socioeconomic and scientific-cultural development. In 3 months time, we shall be celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

I congratulate you, comrade cosmonauts, on your brilliant fulfillment of the flight program. Together with Yuriy Romanenko, Aleksandr Aleksandrov, and Aleksandr Laveykin, you displayed aboard the "Mir" complex a model of selfless, inspired, and efficient work. I also greet the citizen of the Syrian Arab Republic, stand-in cosmonaut researcher Munir Habib Habib, who has been awareded the Order of People's Friendship for his active participation in the backup work for the space flight of the Soviet-Syrian crew aboard the orbital scientific research complex "Mir-Soyuz."

The USSR and Syria are bound by strong ties of all-round cooperation based upon community of interests on the main issues of our time. There is not, perhaps, a single important sphere of activity in which contacts have not been established between our countries.

By continuing the exploration of space for peaceful purposes in the interests of science and technology and of our national economy, in the interests of all mankind, the USSR is doing everything to keep the arms race out of space. We advocate the use of space solely for peaceful purposes and are willing to share our experience in this field with all states.

In their experimental work, the Soviet and Syrian specialists have been guided above all by the needs of the science and national economy of their countries; but its results will become the property of all the countries taking part in space research. Your flight, which has convincingly demonstrated the peaceful nature of our national and international program, will become an important milestone in the use of the vastness of space in the interests of people. Again and again we call upon the nations of this planet to cooperate in exploring space in the name of peace and progress, in the name of a better life for future generations.

Space is an ocean that is far from fully explored. It is difficult to predict the surprises that it may have in store for those who will penetrate the boundless expanses of the universe. In exchange for yielding up its secrets it demands of its conquerors courage, heroism, deep knowledge, and a high degree of professionalism. Every space flight is an act of heroism; and the Soviet-Syrian space crew has achieved that feat worthily and courgeously.

Dear Comrades! I sincerely congratulate you on these high awards. With all my heart I wish you good health, happiness, and new successes in your noble labor for the good of the peoples of our countries and for all mankind. I also take this opportunity to congratulate all the comrades present here; all the scientists and specialists, engineers and workers; all who have taken part in the preparations for the international Soviet-Syrian flight and contributed to its success. I wish you all, dear comrades, new achievements and new daring incursions into the depths of the unknown. [applause] [end recording] [Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 August 1987 in its Second Edition carries on pages 1, 3 a TASS report on Demichev's Kremlin presentation of spaceflight awards entitled "Awards to Conquerors of Space" which provides the information that "The following were present during the award ceremony: Yu. D. Maslyukov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N.I. Savinkin, chief of a CPSU Central Committee Department; P.I. Klimuk, V.A. Solovyev, and V.A. Shatalov, pilot-cosmonauts of the USSR; A.S. Dzasokhov, USSR ambassador to Syria; and Y. Jum'ah, Syrian charge d'affaires in the USSR."]

NEWS CONFERENCE ON SOVIET-SYRIAN SPACE MISSION

LD102107 Moscow TASS in English 1404 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 10 TASS -- TASS special correspondents Rena Kuznetsova and Viktor Lebedev report from the Press Centre of the USSR Foreign Ministry:

A decision was made on the participation of a representative of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) in a joint space flight at the Soviet orbital complex, said Aleksandr Dunayev, head of the USSR chief administration for the development and use of space engineering for the economy and research (glavkosmos). The flight will take place in the next few years.

He answered today questions by Soviet and foreign journalists at a press conference devoted to the successful completion of the Soviet-Syrian space expedition.

Dwelling on issues of international cooperation in exploring and developing space for peaceful purposes, Dunayev recalled that two international space missions -- Soviet-Bulgarian and Soviet-French -- are planned to be launched in 1938. The proposals by other countries for their involvement in joint manned flights at the Soviet orbital complex are also under consideration, Dunayev said.

Each international flight is also an examination for our technology. During the joint Soviet-Syrian orbital expedition our technology passed the exam with an excellent mark, the head of the glavkosmos of the USSR, emphasized.

Academician Vladimir Kotelnikov, vice-president of the USSR Academy of Sciences who chairs the "Intercosmos" Council, responding to newsmen, said that in the USSR and the United States space exploration work was carried out in different directions. The issue cannot be put as to who as ahead in space.

In the duration of space travels priority apparently belongs to the USSR. The Soviet Union created an orbital complex in space for permanently operating expeditions and rotating crews. In the United States, astronauts are sent into space in shuttles.

Academician Kotelnikov pointed out that in each country there was its own way towards space orbits. It is important that both Soviet and American studies complement each other. In comparing the two countries' activity, the point at issue can be not so much about rivalry as about cooperation. The Soviet Union considers as ever its advances in space as belonging to the whole of mankind.

Responding to newsmen's questions regarding the health of Soviet cosmonaut Aleksandr Laveykin, Anatoliy Grigoryev, first deputy director of the Institute of Medico-Biological Problems of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, said that he is in good health and is now going through a traditional period of re-adaptation at the special base near Moscow.

While he was in orbit, specialists observed changes in his cardiac activity rhythm during functional tests with physical loads, which prompted his replacement with Aleksandr Aleksandrov who now works at Mir Complex with Yuriy Romanenko.

The scientist stressed that such changes in the cardiac activity were observed earlier as well both in Soviet and American spacemen during flights of less duration.

EXPERIMENTS CONTINUE ON 'MIR' ORBITAL COMPLEX

LD111053 Moscow TASS in English 1025 GMT 11 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 11 TASS -- Soviet cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Aleksandrov are continuing scheduled work on board the orbital complex "Mir".

During the past days the cosmonauts spent most of their time unloading the automatic cargo ship "Progress-31". They have already removed most of the delivered equipment from it and placed it in the premises of the complex and also pumped the water from the tanks of the cargo ship to those of the "Mir" complex.

Today's programme provides for preparing scientific equipment for forthcoming studies, in particular, loading film into onboard photo cameras and checking optical instruments.

The cosmonauts will also conduct an experiment to evaluate the parameters of the spectral sensitivity of eyesight in space flight conditions. In the test they will use a special table and samples of various colours and shades of colour.

Astrophysical studies with the use of the international orbital observatory "Roentgen" are being continued. From August 10 the Roentgen telescopes mounted in the specialised module "Kant" are again trained at a supernova in the big Magellan Cloud.

According to results of telemetric data and crew reports the flight of the manned complex "Mir" is proceeding normally.

UNTREATED WASTE DUMPED OFF VLADIVOSTOK

DOW1213214 [Editorial report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0830 GMT on 12 August in its scheduled "Vremya" newscast carries a 5-minute video report presented by A. Krutov, who is reporting from the science vessel ("Kalista").

The purpose of the journey is to look over the shores of (Skriptsov) island situated in a bay where a large number of fish and other marine life died last year.

As the video pans the shoreline, the camera focuses on oil slicks, waste matter, and objects. B.V. Preobrazhenskiy, head of the laboratory of the Pacific Ocean Institute of Geography who is also on the vessel, says that a pipe laid beneath the surface of the sea carries up to 300,000 cubic meters of waste matter, of which a little over 7 percent is treated before being discharged. He describes efforts to bring this problem to the attention of the authorities and says that up to now he has received no assurances that the issue would either be solved or even studied. He says: "If measures are not implemented very shortly, in 4 or 5 years it will not be possible to swim in this area," and adds that unless something is done soon, "it will be too late to do anything at all."

KHODKIN DISCUSSES COOPERATION IN METEOROLOGY

LD072204 Moscow TASS in English 1949 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS -- Cooperation between the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Monitoring the Natural Enviroment and similar organisations of other countries evolutes from exchanges of data to large-scale reciprocal deliveries of sophisticated engineering equipment on a contract basis.

Sergey Khodkin, head of the Foreign Relations Department of the committee, has told a TASS correspondent that "the committee now cooperates with 40 countries on the basis of bilateral scientific and technical agreements. Over the past two months it signed contracts for organising a hail-control service to protect crops in Argentina, Greece, and Hungary. The contracts envisage the dispatch of Soviet meteorological radar stations to those countries".

"The committee has a contract with the Japanese firm Jusco for the servicing of instruments, which are connected with the measurement of environmental pollution parameters, in the USSR".

"French equipment Nermag was installed in the Soviet Union this summer and successfully functions. It is designed for the automated analysis of the composition of pollutants in aqueous and air environments".

"A system for the automated processing of pictures received from weather satellites has been put into operation. The system was co-designed by scientists of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic".

"Cooperation between meteorologists", Sergey Khodkin pointed out, "promotes a solution to problems which are of great importance to the national economy of each country".

YAZOV CITES 'STAGNANT PHENOMENA' AT PRESS MEETING

LD130746 Moscow TASS in English 0712 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 13 TASS -- The defensive character of the Soviet military doctrine in no way means a reduction of vigilance and combat readiness, Soviet Defence Minister Dmitriy Yazov has pointed out.

General of the Army Yazov, who is an alternate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, met at the Soviet Defence Ministry with senior editors of central press bodies of the armed forces.

The newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA today published an account of the meeting.

"We cannot do without our defences, we cannot underestimate the need to inculcate in Soviet people the readiness to defend socialism.

The campaign for peace does not exclude, but presupposes constant readiness of each and everyone to perform one's duty of soldier till the end.

There should be no doubt: If need be, we will be able to defend the gains of socialism," the defence minister emphasized.

Gen. Yazov called for more vigorous efforts to eradicate stagnant phenomena that for years had been accumulating in the Army and Navy.

He pointed out that "it is only through broad openness, democratization of army life and perfection of the style and methods of work that it is possible to break the 'mechanism of deceleration' and get rid of faults."

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA VIEWS ALCOHOLISM IN ARMED FORCES

PM111145 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Aug 87 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Sobriety Is Life's Norm"]

[Text] More than 2 years ago our party and government took decisive measures to overcome the ugly phenomena of drunkenness and alcoholism. During this time particular work has been done to establish a sober way of life, which has helped to improve the moral atmosphere in society and strengthen labor discipline and law and order.

But we have still not succeeded in creating everywhere a broad front for the struggle against drunkenness and in making all party and social organizations focus attention on this problem. Attempts to eradicate drunkenness mainly by prohibitive and administrative methods, says the resolution adopted "On Progress in Fulfilling the Resolutions of the CPSU Central Committee on Overcoming Drunkenness and Alcoholism and Activating This Work," not only do not produce lasting results but, on the contrary, aggravates the illness even more, gives rise to new problems, and as a result compromises important and necessary work. The urgent necessity of and the difficulties involved in overcoming drunkenness and alcoholism were discussed at the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum.

A vigorous, assertive struggle against drunkenness is of exceptional importance in the Armed Forces. The essence of the question is that drunkenness, alcoholism, and even "simply" the use of alcohol, are not compatible with fulfilling military duty. These concepts are opposed to each other and mutually exclusive. Absolute sobriety for the serviceman is the norm, the only possible way of life and condition for vigilant service. Making people aware of this truth, and making it each person's inner conviction, is the duty of commanders, political organs, and the party and Komsomol organizations. Under the conditions of sharply increased responsibility for the precise organization of training and service, and for the maintenance of strict order and a combat readiness which ensures that any attempts to encroach on the sovereignty of our motherland are immediately halted, leaders are called upon to react sharply to the slightest manifestations of indifference, laxity, and complacency and to give a principled assessment of each instance of violation of military discipline and order and of each instance of drunkenness in the army and navy environment.

Such instances, unfortunately, still occur. To a certain degree this is because work on the prevention and eradication of drunkenness has recently slackened in many places and because a notable turn has not occurred toward clearly defined, individual forms of work with specific miscreants. Lieutenant Colonel A. Zaytsev, for example, organized a collective drinking bout in the X armored regiment of the Group of Soviet Forces Germany. The officer was severely punished. The officials and party committee units thought that their mission had been accomplished at this point. But the situation in the collective required not only this radical measure but above all sustained, systematic, and persistent work with people, the restructuring of their consciousness and mentality, the intensification of party influence on all aspects of the collective's life and service, and increased responsibility and organization. The facts speak for themselves: Some 30 percent of discipline violations in the regiment are committed in connection with the use of alcohol.

The party Central Committee resolution recommends that local organs abolish trade in alcoholic drinks on the basis of coupons, lists, and orders, as they contradict and discredit the very idea of the struggle against eradicating drunkenness. Unfortunately, such instances are also encountered in our army's practical work. Until recently, in the airborne troops unit where officer V. Ryzhkov serves a system existed whereby a serviceman's family was issued two coupons per month for obtaining alcoholic drinks. The editorial office notified a higher-ranking political organ of this, and this practice was stopped only after this decisive intervention.

These and other instances indicate that the problem of overcoming drunkenness and alcoholism cannot be resolved by a sudden attack, by a noisy campaign, or by single "repressive" measures. The main task here is creating in each military unit and subunit and on ships an atmosphere of intolerance toward those who love drinking sessions, effective and active antialcohol propaganda, and the solution of social, cultural and consumer service problems. It is essential to focus general attention at the center of this work. Sport, hiking, self-education, pursuits in various circles and studios, collective leisure evenings, contact with books and art -- all this must become life's norm for each military collective and a barrier against drunken pastimes.

It should be taken into consideration that drunkenness has now moved into the everyday sphere of life -- into families and hostels. This position requires serious analysis and well thought-out and persistent actions on the entire antialcohol front. The role of the public and of women's councils, which know better than anyone else about the family situation and the tendencies and habits of neighbors in the same block or on the same floor, is increasing significantly in this respect. Strictly individual, tactful and, if necessary, lengthy education work must be conducted with drinkers; all forms of ideological, moral, disciplinary and public influence should be included.

Exposing the causes of alcohol abuse is the cardinal task in the struggle against drunkenness and alcoholism. The unsatisfactory organized life of servicemen and their families, dull and ill-provided leisure time, and the narrowness of the interests and requirements of a number of officers, ensigns, warrant officers, sergeants (or petty officers), and other ranks are among the reasons that can be named.

Attention was focused on precisely these factors in the military construction detachment in the Transbaykal Military District where Captain N. Nozhkin is the deputy commander for political affairs. Here drinking was countered by concern for people, attention to their requirements, and busy, interesting leisure time. The vocal and instrumental ensemble "Molodost" and the theater studio are very popular in the detachment. In his free time each military construction serviceman has the opportunity to do various kinds of artistic creativity or to find himself some occupation in a specially equipped joiner's workshop. New progressive ceremonies have been actively introduced here. Recently, for example, a naming ceremony took place for a child in the family of Warrant Officer G. Maystrenko, holder of the "For Valor" and "For Combat" service medals. The "Serviceman and the Law" audio-visual lectures are operating successfully in the detachment, and workers from the military prosecutor's office, the detachment's doctor, and other officials are taking part in it. Such well thought-out and varied work has made it possible if not to eradicate drunkenness, then to considerably contain it and to deprive it of fertile soil.

Overcoming drunkenness and alcoholism is a task of great political importance, an integral part of restructuring and of the multifaceted work to clean up the moral atmosphere in our society. To struggle persistently for a guaranteed solution to this task in the Army and the Navy means ensuring a higher level of organization of training and education for servicemen, statutory order and discipline.

CARPATHIA TROOPS TO HOLD EXERCISES 17-22 AUG

LD101051 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0550 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Embargoed until 1600 GMT 10 August]

[Text] Moscow, 10 August [TASS] -- An exercise of troops of the Carpathian Military District will be held between 17-22 August inclusive on the territory of the Ukrainian SSR in the Rava-Russkaya, Yavorov, Gorodok, and Nesterov region. The exercise is being conducted to further improve field training and matters relating to the direction and interaction of various troop arms during the execution of military training tasks.

Formations and units of land troops and air forces totaling 18,000 men will take part in the exercise.

In accordance with the Stockholm conference document, observers from all member states of the CSCE have been invited by the USSR Government.